



# SOUVENIR SPECIAL

President-elect Obama—before he was a rock star **29-32**

**red  
eye**

**Friday**  
NOVEMBER 14, 2008

[redeychicago.com](http://redeychicago.com)

A Chicago Tribune  
publication

★ **FREE** ★

CHASE AGNELLO-DEAN/REDEYE

# TAKE A HIKE

Get ready to pay more on the CTA—as much as 50 cents a ride **6**





## random dilemma

We asked. You responded. Here are the results from Thursday's Random Dilemma, in which we asked if you would rather get caught cheating on your significant other or catch your significant other cheating on you:

**21%** Get caught cheating on your significant other

**79%** Catch your significant other cheating on you

**Here's another:** Which would you rather do? Text **"pick"** and the number of your response to **47383**. You'll get the poll results instantly.

**Be the commander of a squirrel army (1) OR Be the principal of a school of fish (2)**

Do you have an idea for our Random Dilemma? Send it to us at [ritaredeye@tribune.com](mailto:ritaredeye@tribune.com).

**txtable**

**2do**

**To celebrate**  
Get into the holiday spirit with caroling from "Jersey Boys" cast members at the lighting ceremony for a 45-foot tree at 10:30 a.m. Friday at the Museum of Science and Industry (57th Street and Lake Shore Drive).

### To audition

Guys age 21 to 29 can audition for "The Cougar," a new dating show from the creator of "The Bachelor" from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday at Joe's Bar (940 W. Weed St.).

### To give

Be among the first 100 people to bring a new, unwrapped toy for a holiday toy drive from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday at Water Tower Pumping Station (821 N. Michigan Ave.) and score a ticket to an advance screening of "Four Christmases," starring Vince Vaughn and Reese Witherspoon.

### To wear

Ladies, if you have a hard time finding your size in stores check out [shoesizes5to14.com](http://shoesizes5to14.com), which sells women's shoes in a wide range of sizes with features to prevent sweaty feet and provide cushioning for pressure points.



**55 35**

**TODAY'S FORECAST**

Cloudy and more rain



**SAT. 37 27**

Cold, with snow



**SUN. 38 29**

Partly cloudy



**MON. 39 25**

Some clouds



**TUE. 38 29**

Sunny, but cold

## Delivered fresh, daily

Why walk when you can have RedEye delivered to your doorstep? Monday-Saturday delivery costs only \$1 a week. Need an incentive? Sign up by Nov. 21 and receive a free commemorative poster of RedEye's historic election cover (above). Sign up at [redeyeweekend.com](http://redeyeweekend.com) or call 1-800-TRIBUNE and ask for operator code 944. And thanks, as always, for reading us!

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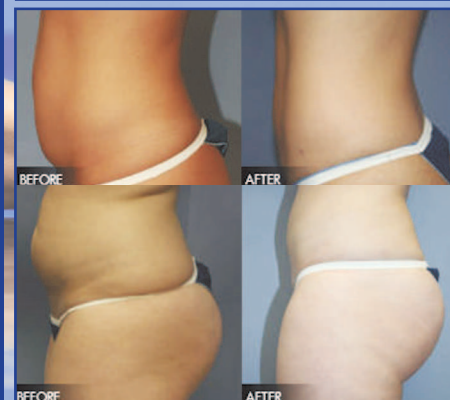
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# Is now the time to buy?

## Prices on lux items falling in down economy

### Wall Street Journal

Financial markets are in the tank, and the economy is grinding to halt—a great time, it turns out, to shop.

Shoppers can find a bonanza of deals on everything from Prada shoes to premium jeans and smart phones. Discounters like T.J. Maxx and overstock.com and outlet stores like Saks Fifth Avenue Off Fifth all are stocking some of the best selections of apparel, accessories and electronic goods—at some of the best prices—due to the sharp falloff in consumer spending that has forced full-price stores to unload excess inventory.

Shoppers like Kristle Bonfield, a 23-year-old nurse technician and regular T.J. Maxx customer, have noticed the difference. The store she frequents in Manhattan has lately been stocking a wider selection of high-end jeans from labels such as True Religion, Joe's Jeans and Paper Denim & Cloth, she said. Bonfield said she was able to pick up a pair of 7 for All Mankind jeans for about \$80 that she later saw at Bloomingdale's for more than \$200.

Kimberly Greenberger, an analyst at Citigroup, expects the deals to only get better into next year if consumer spending stays weak, which industry-watchers are expecting.

In a survey of 1,000 people earlier this month by America's Research Group, nearly

### SHOP SMART

» Expect bargains throughout the holidays and even into the new year if sales continue to disappoint retailers.

» Markdowns extend to more designer brands and a greater selection of items than in the past.

» At some stores, be prepared to sift through racks of picked-over merchandise.



People walk by a clothing store Wednesday advertising large holiday sales in New York. U.S. retail chains posted the worst October sales results in more than three decades. GETTY IMAGES

half of the respondents who said they've shopped at luxury stores in past Christmas seasons say they won't be shopping at those stores this year—meaning more merchandise could be headed to off-price stores, online discounters and outlet stores.

Salt Lake City-based overstock.com will be selling items at 15 percent to 45 percent off full retail price for the holidays. Even now a gray crocodile-embossed tote bag from Yves Saint Laurent sells for \$1,300 on the site, a discount of 31 percent from the retail price of about \$1,900.

Since mid-September, the company has

been snapping up high-end apparel, boots, shoes and handbags from brands such as Prada, Gucci and Jimmy Choo that it has never carried before. Its inventory of shoes alone has swelled to 55,000 pairs from fewer than 2,000 before September.

DSW stores are offering up to 75 percent off designer shoes from brands like Ralph Lauren and Sergio Rossi, compared with discounts of up to 50 percent last year, while Loehmann's recently advertised a "big fashion event," with discounts of up to 70 percent off on apparel from designers, including Nanette Lepore and Marc by Marc Jacobs.

### TAKING THE PLUNGE

Wall Street launched a massive rebound Thursday, sending the Dow Jones industrial average up about 550 points after it fell near its lows for the year. In early trading the market fell below the 8,000 mark. It finished the day above 8,800.



## White House foodie

### Associated Press

Former President George H.W. Bush famously disliked broccoli. His son, the outgoing president, is a Texas meat-eater. President-elect Barack Obama loves chili and shuns beets. Obama's aversion to beets aside—"I always avoid eating them," he says—the new first family are foodies with a wide-ranging palate.

"They are totally adventurous people ... they enjoy food," said chef Rick Bayless of River North's Frontera Grill/Topolobampo, a favorite of the Obamas. Soon, the White House staff will be catering to the family's food needs, and what the Obamas eat in their hometown of Chicago offers a hint at what might be served at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

» At Bayless' restaurant, Obama and his wife Michelle usually begin their meals with tortilla soup and guacamole as starters, followed by something from a changing seasonal menu to reflect the freshest fare.

» Not all food has to be fancy. The Obamas enjoy takeout from a neighborhood pizza joint and an island-inspired restaurant not far from their home where Michelle Obama fancies the grilled tilapia.

» The Obama daughters, Malia and Sasha, have a few favorites of their own. When they stay over at close family friend Yvonne Davila's house, they often request her fried chicken and macaroni and cheese. Another family friend, Kaye "Mama Kaye" Wilson, said Malia is a fan of her lemon meringue pie and Sasha enjoys her cobbler.



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## reader letters

[ritaredeye@tribune.com](mailto:ritaredeye@tribune.com)



# Obama, election strike a chord

Plus, veggies burgers, smoking etiquette

I am proud that America took a great big step toward equality by electing Barack Obama. But I am also saddened and disappointed by the backward steps taken by the following states that wrote blatant discrimination into their constitutions: Arkansas, where unmarried couples are now prevented from adopting or fostering children; Florida and Arizona, where gay marriage has been banned; and, most notably, California, where a law allowing gay marriage has been repealed, leaving the status of 20,000 marriages in question. I was under the impression that our Constitution was created to protect our rights, not repeal them.

JEREMY HAWKING, 34, LAKEVIEW

## Enough Obama already

I understand that people feel as if this is a historic election. I also understand that Obama is from Chicago and it is exciting for the city. But it has now been a full week since the election. Can we get some other news besides what dog the Obamas want to pick and where Barack works out? There are people out there that didn't vote for him and I highly doubt if McCain won that your paper would continue plastering his face and every detail of his future at the White House in your publication.

I am a patriot and I will support our president, but can't we have something else to read about?

KATHERINE HOLLAND

## SOUNDING OFF

Got something on your mind—either RedEye related or not? Write to us at [ritaredeye@tribune.com](mailto:ritaredeye@tribune.com). Or, join our growing audience on Twitter at [twitter.com/redeyechicago](https://twitter.com/redeyechicago) by sending us your thoughts in 140 characters or less.

## Butt out

I think there needs to be an article on smoking etiquette in large crowds or walking down the street. After attending the Obama rally [Nov. 4], I think I secondhand-smoked a pack of cigarettes.

LAURIE COVINO, 29, RIVER NORTH

## Mmmm, veggie burgers

I wanted to thank you for the welcome surprise that dropped onto my doorstep this weekend. To see your feature article on the front cover ("All burger, no meat," Nov. 8 cover story) was a treat—and got me craving a few more!

It was a worthy tribute to the healthy and compassionate alternatives that have become more and more popular in our sadly carnivorous city. Like the article mentioned, veggie burgers are a great way to personally reduce environmental degradation and greenhouse gas emissions, not to mention eliminate animal cruelty.

Thank you again for including your veggie burger recommendations in this weekend's RedEye!

ERIN CURRAN, 23, LAKEVIEW



A Chicago Tribune  
publication  
[redeyechicago.com](http://redeyechicago.com)

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# Quarter pounded

## CTA raising some fares by as much as 50 cents starting Jan. 1

### Chicago Tribune

CTA riders will pay more next year—though, in some cases, not quite as much as first proposed—under fare increases approved by the agency's board on Thursday.

The CTA also said it would lay off 632 workers, almost 200 of them before the end of the year, as it tried to plug a \$42 million gap in its \$1.3 billion budget without cutting service.

Starting Jan. 1, fares will increase as much as 50 cents to \$2.25 a ride. The board lowered the proposed increase on multiple-day passes from 20 percent to 15 percent, so the cost of a 30-day pass went from \$75 to \$86, rather than \$90.

Transit board Chairman Carole Brown said that change was made possible by halting employee enrollment in a "supplemental" pension program for senior staff, a move that was expected to save \$3.6 million.

CTA President Ron Huberman said that although ridership is up and fuel costs had dropped from the budget forecast, the transit agency still must grapple with rapidly declining revenues from sales and real estate transfer taxes, an aging bus fleet and other infrastructure, and the added costs of transporting seniors and other riders for free.

The lone person on the seven-member board to vote against the fare hikes was Sheila Nix, who was appointed in September by Gov. Blagojevich after leaving her job as his deputy governor, where she helped implement the seniors' free-ride program.

Nix said she believed the budget gap could be plugged without resorting to a fare increase, which would hit customers already struggling through a slumping economy. After the meeting, Huberman called that view "irresponsible."

"I think it would've been irresponsible to attempt to wish that the economy comes back or to wish our revenues ended up being more," he said.

Another board member, Susan Leonis, said she was "begrudgingly" voting in favor of the increases, which come less than a year after the state legislature passed a sales-tax increase in the Chicago area to help the beleaguered agency.

"We knew that our customers are dealing with financial

### EXPECTED GROWTH

The CTA estimates higher fares will reduce traffic by 17 million rides, but Brown said ridership is still expected to continue growing overall next year to 523 million.



Passengers board and exit a bus Thursday on South Michigan Avenue.

TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/TRIBUNE

hardships," she said, and the recurring requests for aid have "hurt our credibility."

A handful of protesters with signs such as "The public can't afford your public transit" beat plastic buckets outside CTA headquarters at 567 W. Lake St. before the meeting. A protester railed against the "fat cats" approving the fare increases and shouted that he was going to ride a bike instead of using public transit. He was escorted from the meeting.

Fares account for half the CTA's operating revenue. Even with the increased prices, the agency is not promising it won't need more help next year. Among other hopeful signs, the agency expects advertising revenue to increase next year, though on Thursday the board voted to ban advertising for video games rated M or higher.

The transit board was pleased that Blagojevich had vowed to reinstate \$32 million a year in reduced-fare subsidies he'd vetoed from the budget, but the agency remains heavily dependent on politicians for support.

"I'm hopeful we will not have to come back to our customers any time soon," Huberman said after the meeting.

## RIDERS PAY UP

A comparison of the CTA's fares now, and beginning next year.

CTA fare types	Current fares since Jan. 1, 2006	Proposed fares starting Jan. 1, 2009
Full Fare Transit Card (TC) Bus	\$1.75	\$2
Full Fare TC Rail	\$2	\$2.25
Full Fare Chicago Card (CC) Bus	\$1.75	\$2
Full Fare CC Rail	\$1.75	\$2.25
Full Fare Cash (bus only)	\$2	\$2.25
TC or CC Transfer <sup>1</sup>	\$0.25	\$0.25
Chicago Card Bonus <sup>2</sup>	10%	Eliminated
1-Day Pass	\$5	\$5.75
2-Day Visitor Pass	\$9	Eliminated
3-Day Visitor Pass	\$12	\$14
5-Day Visitor Pass	\$18	Eliminated
7-Day Pass	\$20	\$23
Full Fare 30-Day Pass	\$75	\$86
U-Pass <sup>3</sup>	—	15% increase
Reduced Fare <sup>4</sup> TC or CC	\$0.85	Unchanged
Reduced Fare Cash (bus only)	\$1	Unchanged
Reduced Fare TC or CC Transfer	\$0.15	Unchanged
Reduced Fare 30-Day Pass	\$35	Unchanged

<sup>1</sup> Transfer fare allows two additional rides within two hours of the first boarding

<sup>2</sup> For every \$20 purchase of pay-per-use fares, \$22 of value is added to the card

<sup>3</sup> Available through participating universities only; price change effective 2009 Fall Term

<sup>4</sup> Reduced fares offered to eligible customers only

### E-FEEDBACK Reaction from @redeyechicago followers on Twitter and chicagotribune.com message boards.

I don't understand why the CTA didn't raise the fares last January. So what if the governor approved a bailout? They'd have a whole year of increased revenue. —Katie S

It sucks. What is the incentive to have a Chicago Card now? Time to pay more for inadequate service ... yippee. —tylervavitz

As long as the fare hike goes into infrastructure and not someone's pocket, it will be worth it. but this is Chicago. —himm

The only alternative to this mass transit mess is to privatize the RTA. The taxpayers can only take so much more and the transit riders refuse to pay the REAL cost of their rides. —Homer Ballard





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# Clowning around

Behind-the-scenes peek at 'Greatest Show on Earth'

By Alexia Elejalde-Ruiz | REDEYE

Step right up, folks! The circus is in town. Behold: a hopping tiger, a dancing elephant, sequined humans soaring through the air and clowns cavorting in controlled chaos. And the bearded lady? Alas, ladies and gentlemen, that is so half a century ago. But behold the horsemen flipping like gymnasts around their galloping steeds and motorcyclists zipping around a metal sphere in daredevil feats of death-defying derring-do!

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, The Greatest Show on Earth, has made its annual stop in Chicago, stationed in the Allstate Arena in Rosemont through Sunday before it moves to the United Center Nov. 18-30 (admission: \$13-\$85).

That means the city is now host to some 300 circus performers, staffers and animals, who chugged into town on a mile-long train they call home. The train—where the circus gang lives, eats and sleeps for the two years they are on tour (it also has a nursery and school for circus kids)—is parked on the tracks in the West suburbs.

A fascinating bunch, circus people. Moving from one city to the next almost every week, these nomads, who hail from around the globe, live in a stew of different cultures and languages.

After sharing a laugh backstage with a Chinese acrobat, John Schroeder, a 24-year-old clown from Minnesota, marveled at the worldliness of the circus experience.

"We have no language in common, and yet we can be friends," Schroeder said as he applied his clown makeup, leaving his red plastic nose for last, alongside Daniel "Tamalito" Sanchez, a 38-year-old clown from Peru.

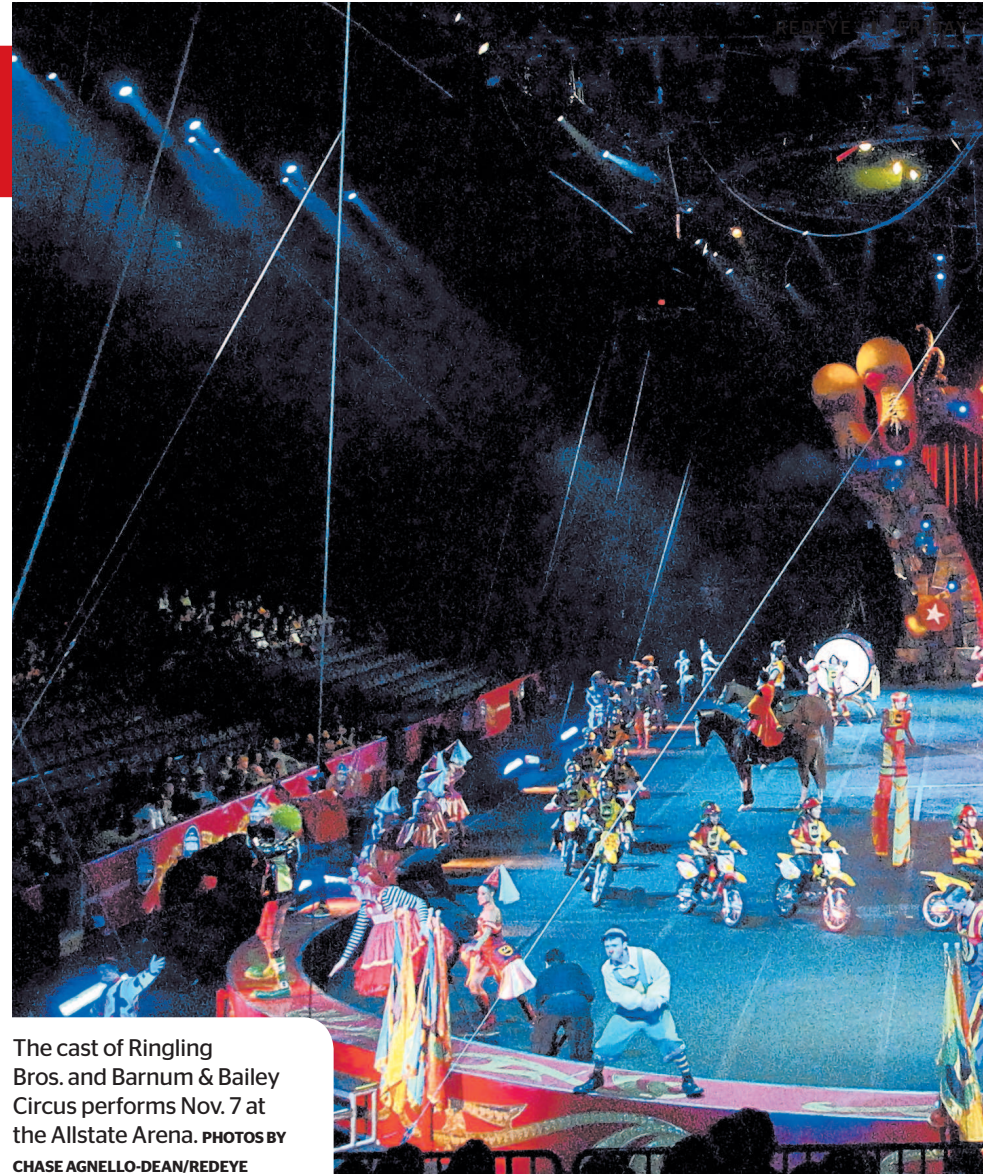
Schroeder, better known as "Squeak" on

stage, followed a different path to the circus than many of his co-performers, who tend to come from circus families. Schroeder, who graduated from Bethany Lutheran College in Minnesota last year with a major in communications and graphic design, and a minor in theater, saw his destiny as a clown after playing some comedic roles in community theater. He went to clown camp for three summers, and made it his goal to work for Ringling Bros., the largest circus in the country.

"When I said I was going to run away with the circus, my mom didn't like it all that much," Schroeder said. She worried that the transient life would be difficult and keep him far from home, he said. But she came around when, by sending in audition photos and working some clown connections, Schroeder got a Ringling contract.

A circus newbie, Schroeder's room on the train measures 5 feet by 8 feet, and he says he can touch the four walls simultaneously when stretched out on his bed. Asked how much clowns make these days, he responds: "I'm not doing this for the money; I'm doing it for the experience."

But others make a solid living as circus performers, as they can negotiate for higher



The cast of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus performs Nov. 7 at the Allstate Arena. PHOTOS BY CHASE AGNELLO-DEAN/REDEYE

contracts based on their experience, skill and where they've worked before.

"Some people can make as much as a doctor; some make as much as a fast-food worker," said George Caceres, 30, leader of the trapeze troupe The Flying Caceres. The most stressful part of a circus career, Caceres said, is finding the next contract once a tour is done.

"It's like being in a band, when you always worry about having to book the next gig," he said.

Like most circus performers, Caceres was born into a circus family. His father was a trapeze artist, and his mother, though not a performer herself, was involved in the circus because her father was a clown.

Caceres, whose family is Colombian, started learning and performing trapeze when he was 5. Though he never pursued another career path—"When that is your life, and it's a good life, why would you question it?" he said—there were times growing up when he considered doing something different.

"In your teens, you want to be rebellious," Caceres said. (Note that the rebellious thing to do in his case was run away from the circus.)

For the Torres Family, which actually consists of five siblings from Paraguay and

two friends from Argentina, joining the circus was a professional move rather than family tradition. They were motocross pros in Latin American when they discovered they could take their skills to the circus.

Their act terrifies even adult audience members, as seven motorcycles, with barely an inch between them, zoom around at 65 mph inside a metal globe measuring 16 feet in diameter, filling the arena with the smell of diesel.

"There's always fear, but we're used to it; you just have to pay attention," said troupe leader Ariel Torres, 38. The siblings haven't let their mother see a live show because "it wouldn't be good for her," Torres said.

Circus performers know the risk of their work. Daniel Raffo, the tiger trainer, came near death at 16, when he got too close to a tiger he was training and it lunged and sunk its teeth into Raffo's back. Raffo, who comes from five generations of animal trainers, might have rethought the family business at that point, but instead it "made me feel stronger," he said.

"I'm never afraid, but at the same time, I pay attention to what I do," Raffo, 36, said after a two-hour practice session with six of his tigers.





## Golden days of the big top

Much has changed since the golden age of the big top, when the circus was the social event of the season and people would attend dressed to the nines.

"All these circus people were as famous as movie stars in those days," said Steve Freese, executive director of the Circus World Museum in Baraboo, Wis. "Mable Stark [a 1920s tiger trainer] was as famous as Madonna."

Today, there are 20 to 30 circus shows on the road, down from 100 to 200 in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries, said Erin Foley, the museum's archivist.

But opening night at the Ringling Bros. show at Allstate Arena on Nov. 6 teemed with squealing children and their parents, plus some adults who came on their own.

"I have a kid," said 27-year-old Karla Leon, who lives in Irving Park, as she pointed to her boyfriend. "He's a kid."

Sergio Macias, also 27, said he dragged Leon to the circus with him because he was nostalgic for the days before video games.

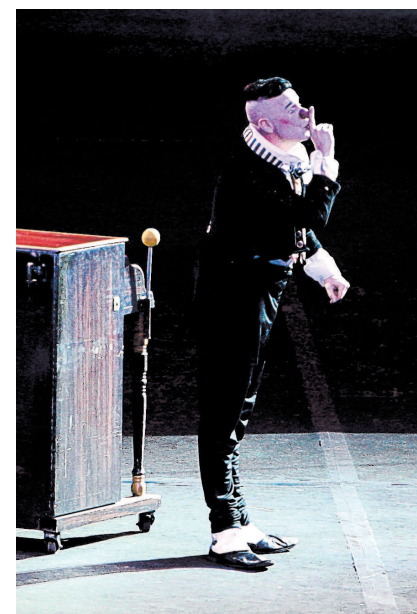
"I kind of miss the innocence, I miss the humor that is pure," said Macias, who lives in Bridgeport.

Not that everything about the circus is innocent. Whereas circuses used to introduce audiences to new technologies and exotic animals, today, kids raised on TV and the Internet aren't surprised by much. And the circus also is regularly accused of animal cruelty.

Ringling Bros. is currently fighting a lawsuit, brought by three animal rights groups and a former Ringling elephant handler, that alleges circus elephants are beaten with bull hooks and otherwise mistreated to make them submissive. Some cities have banned or restricted the use of animals in circuses.

The Chicago City Council is considering an ordinance, proposed by Ald. Mary Ann Smith (48th), that would make it illegal "to use on an elephant any device or instrument with the intent to cause pain and injury, except as necessary to administer legitimate medical treatment," and would ban chaining elephants except when necessary.

The City Council is scheduled to vote on the proposed ordinance Wednesday after two aldermen blocked a vote this week, the Tribune reported. Stephen Payne, a spokesman for Ringling owner Feld Entertainment, said the circus would not come back if the ordinance is approved as written. **ALEXIA ELEJALDE-RUIZ, REDEYE**



A clown plays to the crowd during the performance of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

## The circus circuit

Want to run away with the circus? If you missed the Ringling Bros. clown auditions Wednesday—the first in Chicago in 12 years—take heart. Beginners and pros alike can sharpen their circus skills with these local classes. **ALEXIA ELEJALDE-RUIZ, REDEYE**

### The Actors Gymnasium

Noyes Cultural Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston; 847-328-2795; [actorsgymnasium.com](http://actorsgymnasium.com)

» Circus arts classes for adults and kids teach unicycling, juggling, stilt-walking, tightrope, trapeze and Spanish Web. There also are classes specific to aerial work and contortion.

**Cost:** \$130 to \$210 for 10-week sessions.

### Aloft Loft

2041 W. Carroll Ave. #306; 773-782-6662, [aloftloft.com](http://aloftloft.com)

» Adult classes in trapeze, silks and "hooping" (like uber-advanced hula hooping). It also offers Pilates and private lessons in anything aerial, such as lyra (aerial hoop) and rope.

**Cost:** A single class is \$35. Packages range from \$100 for four classes to \$275 for 10 classes. There's also a free trapeze class every second Saturday of the month (you must R.S.V.P.).

### AMEBA Acrobatics and Aerial Dance

Two studios: 2014 W. Belle Plaine Ave.; 2603 W. Barry Ave.; 773-463-4402; [amebadance.org](http://amebadance.org)

» Beginner through advanced classes for kids and adults in acro-aerial dance, silks and rope/bungee.

**Cost:** Ten-week sessions cost \$195 for one class per week, \$320 for two classes per week. There are reduced rates for professionals.



“

**When I said I was going to run away with the circus, my mom didn't like it all that much.”**

**JOHN "SQUEAK" SCHROEDER**

clown

Daniel "Tamalito" Sanchez of Peru and John "Squeak" Schroeder of Minnesota apply their makeup prior to the start of a show.

"I love these guys," he said, motioning to a pacing tiger in a cage that seemed agitated by a custodian sweeping nearby. "They're my life."

For Schroeder the clown, the circus life stops sooner than for most. After his tour with Ringling ends next year, he's going back to Minnesota to learn his own family's business: log home supplies.

"I learned a lot and it's been an amazing year, but now it's on to other things," Schroeder said. "It's been an awesome experience I'll never forget." **ALEXIA ELEJALDE-RUIZ@TRIBUNE.COM**



# Dog's condition improving after rescue from fire



The 13-year-old German shepherd mix whose owner died Wednesday after refusing to leave a burning house without him is doing "much, much better" and could be discharged from an animal hospital as soon as Monday, hospital officials said Thursday morning.

John Petrik, 68, who lived alone with his dog, Regis, in Cicero, died of a heart attack, authorities said. Officials said police had to forcibly remove Petrik

from the home about 2 a.m. because he refused to leave, saying he didn't want to abandon his dog.

Petrik's brother, Joe, described him as a private man who never married. About 12 years ago, John Petrik rescued Regis at a Cicero intersection after watching the dog get thrown out of the car in front of him. He had cared for the dog ever since, rarely leaving the house because he didn't want to leave the dog

alone, Joe Petrik said.

"It was like his child. He was 100 percent devoted," he said. "Outside of normal conversation, that's all he talked about."

Petrik suffered the attack in a police car as firefighters went inside the house and saved the dog.

Regis, who suffered from smoke inhalation and burns, was placed in intensive care Wednesday in an Oak Park veteri-

nary hospital. By Thursday morning, hospital officials said the dog's condition had improved, but that he would remain hospitalized for the weekend before being turned over to Cicero animal control.

It was a remarkable recovery, said Dr. Cesar Agustin, who is treating the dog at Aamerican Animal Hospital. When Regis arrived at the hospital, he "wasn't even moving."

## Aspiring rapper arrested

A local hip-hop artist known as "Bump J" has been arrested Downstate and accused of a takeover-style bank robbery in Oak Park last year.

Terrance Boykin had been the subject of an unpublicized manhunt since September, when he was indicted in connection with the January 2007 robbery, the FBI announced Thursday.

Ross Rice, an FBI spokesman, said the fact that agents were looking for Boykin was kept close to the vest for fear he could flee.

It wasn't until this week that the 28-year-old aspiring rapper was taken into custody after Carbondale police pulled him over in a routine traffic stop. They learned of the warrant for his arrest in a computer check. Authorities declined to immediately disclose what linked Boykin to the crime, but said more details would be forthcoming.

Boykin of the 1200 block of South State Street in Chicago is expected to appear in the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse in coming days after his transfer by U.S. marshals. An attorney for him could not immediately be reached for comment.

The FBI said Boykin is thought to be one of two men who stormed into a Chase Bank branch at 800 W. Madison St. with handguns and announced a robbery Jan. 4 last year. The men forced employees to empty teller drawers and took cash from a vault before running with more than \$108,000.

Boykin as "Bump J" had most recently put out a mix tape titled "Dinner Time," according to a Web site for him, and was part of another project called "Chicagorilla."



Niger Arnold (right), 31, talks with reporters Thursday about a lawsuit against Chicago police officers. **AP PHOTO**

## Police accused of Election Night assault

A Chicago family filed a federal lawsuit Thursday alleging that police officers unlawfully broke into their West Side home and assaulted them verbally and physically on Election Night during a neighborhood celebration of Barack Obama's victory.

Five members of the Arnold family, ranging in age from 1 to 18, were on their front porch in the 3400 block of West Chicago Avenue on the night of Nov. 4 as residents celebrated Obama's presidential victory, said Gregory Kulis, the attorney who filed the suit on behalf of the plaintiffs.

As residents were cheering and yelling, squad cars came into the neighborhood and discharged pepper spray, including throwing a can of spray into a crowd of celebrants, Kulis said, citing witness accounts. When a member of the crowd threw the can of pepper spray back at the squad car, police officers began pursuing the crowd with guns drawn, he said.

During the commotion, the Arnold family

ran into their house, and police officers followed, kicking in their front door, Kulis said. The officers, who are not named in the lawsuit, then pushed family members to the floor and made racial insults before leaving, Kulis said.

The Chicago Police Department issued a statement in response to the lawsuit that said Chicago police take allegations of misconduct seriously and that the Independent Police Review Authority was investigating the incident. A police spokeswoman praised the city's officers for doing an "outstanding job" on Election Night.

"The Chicago Police Department does not condone or tolerate hate crimes on any level," the statement said. "Police officers did an outstanding job keeping the peace and [keeping] the city safe during Election Day and evening activities.

The lawsuit seeks at least \$200,000 in damages for excessive force, unlawful search, battery and hate crime.

### Teen found; left town on bus

The 15-year-old daughter of a Chicago firefighter returned home safely Wednesday night after being reported missing since Monday. Tisha Muentes returned home in good condition after contacting her father, who subsequently contacted authorities, Chicago police said. Tisha had taken a bus to Indianapolis, police said. They declined to say why she went there, saying only "the incident appears to be family related." The family had announced a \$10,000 reward for information on the whereabouts of the girl.

### Installation of Trump spire postponed again

The installation of the spire atop Donald Trump's 92-story Chicago hotel and condo tower has been put off again, according to Tribune architecture critic Blair Kamin's blog, The Skyline. In an e-mail Thursday, Trump Organization Executive Vice President Andrew Weiss wrote: "I have just been informed that the spire installation for this Sunday is off. No new date has been designated yet." Weiss did not offer a reason for the latest postponement.

### Obama to resign seat

President-elect Obama said Thursday that he will resign from the Senate effective Sunday. Under state law, Democratic Gov. Blagojevich will name Obama's replacement for the remaining two years of his term. Blagojevich has said he expects to make a decision by year's end, and he has ruled out appointing himself. Obama, elected in 2004, is the only black senator.

### Missing NU student's clothes found

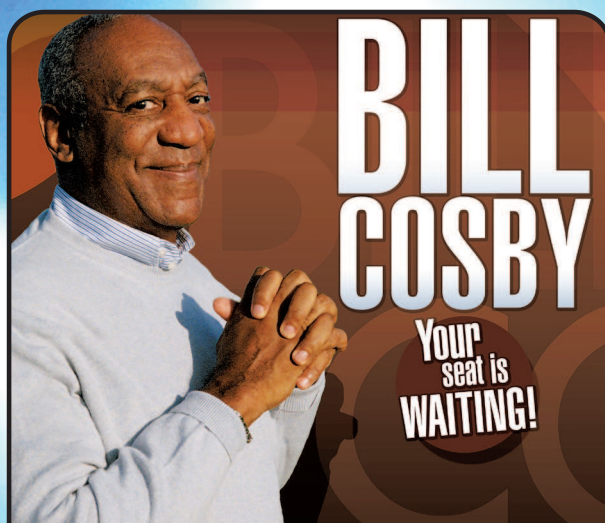
A jacket belonging to a missing Northwestern University student was discovered Thursday morning along the shore of Lake Michigan at the school's Evanston campus, officials said this afternoon. Trevor Boehm, 20, a freshman from Monument, Colo., has not been seen since the night of Nov. 5. A Northwestern University police officer found a jacket containing Boehm's ID card, keys and cell phone, a school spokesman said.



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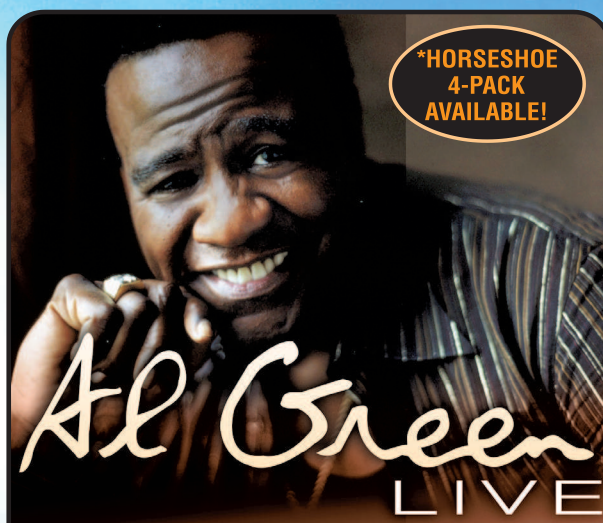


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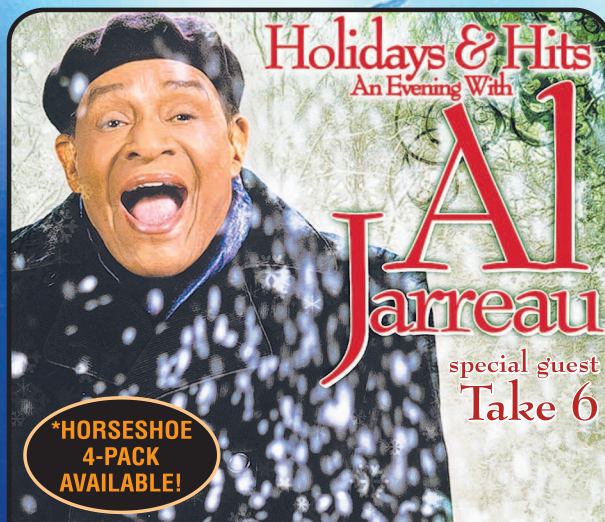


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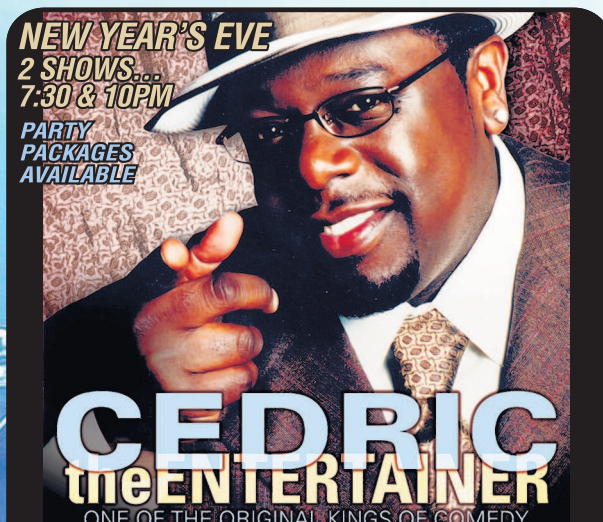
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## 1 Cops: No evidence of Caylee

Florida authorities say the search of a lake at an Orlando park has not turned up any evidence related to missing 3-year-old Caylee Anthony. Divers on Thursday found some sort of bag with toys and what appeared to be bones.



**Caylee**

## 2 Va. Tech lockdown

Cartridges from power nail guns were the source of gunshot-like sounds that prompted a lockdown of a residence hall on Virginia Tech's campus Thursday, authorities in Blacksburg, Va., said.

## 3 Severe flooding

A woman and two young children were rescued from the top of their SUV as floodwaters swept over the vehicle's roof on a coastal Oregon road. Seven people were rescued from their vehicles south of Tillamook on Wednesday night.

## 4 Obese inmate released

An obese inmate who goes by the nickname "Big Mike" has been granted early parole because a prison in Montreal could not accommodate his 430-pound frame.

## 5 Gaza goes dark

Gaza City was dark Thursday night after officials shut down its only power plant as Israel cut off fuel and food shipments to the Palestinian territory because of renewed rocket attacks.

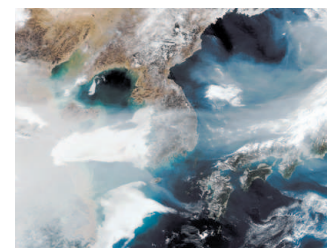
## DIGIT

# 11,000

Number of workers in Macau that are likely to lose their jobs after a cash crunch forced struggling casino operator Las Vegas Sands to halt construction on multibillion-dollar projects in the Chinese gambling city, company officials said Thursday.



Chinese women cycle through smog and pollution in Beijing's Tiananmen Square earlier this year. A thick brown cloud of soot, particles and chemicals stretching from the Persian Gulf to Asia is threatening health and food supplies across the world. **AP FILE**



## GLOBAL PROBLEM

The enormous cloud masses can move across continents within three to four days, illustrating the fact that the phenomenon is not just a regional urban issue but a global one, said lead scientist Veerabhadran Ramanathan, with the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California in San Diego.

# Brown cloud warning

**6 BEIJING** Thick brown clouds of soot, particles and chemicals stretching from the Persian Gulf to Asia threaten health and food supplies in the world, the UN reported Thursday, citing what it called the newest threat to the global environment.

The regional haze, known as atmospheric brown clouds, contributes to glacial melting, reduces sunlight, and helps create extreme weather conditions that

impact agricultural production, according to the report commissioned by the UN Environment Program.

The huge plumes have darkened 13 megacities in Asia—including Beijing, Shanghai, Bangkok, Cairo, Mumbai and New Delhi—sharply “dimming” the amount of light by as much as 25 percent in some places.

Caused by the burning of fossil fuels, wood and plants, the brown clouds also

play a significant role in exacerbating the effects of greenhouse gases in warming up the Earth's atmosphere, the report said.

At the same time, the brown clouds have also helped mask the full impact of global warming by helping to cool the earth's surface and tamp down rising temperatures by between 20 to 80 percent, the study said. That's because some of the particles that make up the clouds reflect sunlight and cool down the air.



## No inauguration tickets on eBay

eBay has decided it won't allow tickets to President-elect Obama's swearing-in ceremony to be sold on its Web sites.

The company made the decision after meeting Wednesday with representatives of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, eBay spokeswoman Nichola Sharpe tells The Associated Press.

The head of the committee, Democratic

Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California, wants to prevent scalping of tickets to the historic event. Tickets are supposed to be distributed

free through congressional offices, which have been overwhelmed with demands.

eBay is the parent

company of listing and sales sites eBay, StubHub and Kijiji. Early this week StubHub advertised swearing-in tickets for thousands of dollars, but the postings were gone Thursday.







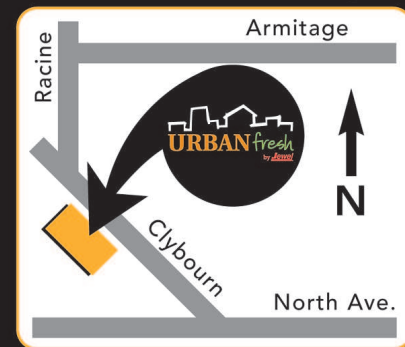
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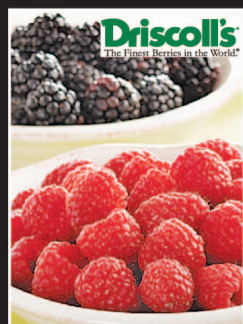
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773.202.1465  
708.283.1600  
847.673.5900  
773.276.1832  
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773.227.1802  
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Harlem & Cermak 708.442.1964  
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Lake & Harlem 708.524.0113  
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# sports

## Come back, Brett

Conventional wisdom is that Bears fans should be happy to see quarterback Brett Favre out of Green Bay, considering how long he was a thorn in Chicago's side. But the reality is Favre didn't fare so well against the Bears in the last few seasons he was in Green Bay, and the Packers may have a much better shot at victory with Aaron Rodgers. Here's a look at how the Bears fared against Favre from 2005-'07. **REDEYE**



Favre

### 2007

**Dec. 23:** The Bears give their fans an early Christmas present: a crushing of the hated Packers, 35-7 at Soldier Field. Favre threw two interceptions, one to Brian Urlacher that was returned for a touchdown.

**Oct. 7:** At Green Bay, the Bears hand the Pack their first season loss. Favre throws two picks, the last one in the end zone as time ran out, erasing the Packers' chance to win.

### 2006

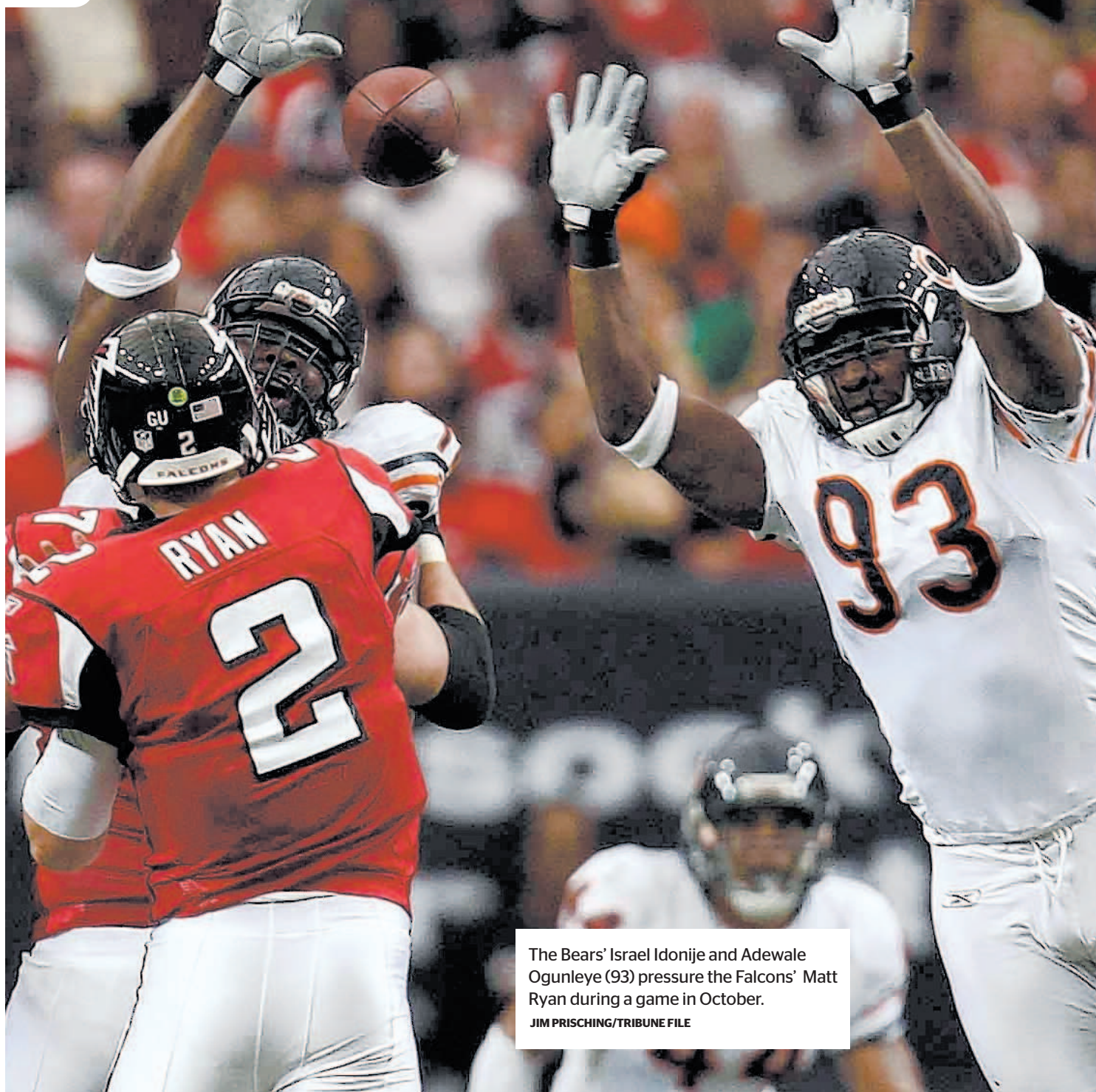
**Dec. 31:** Happy New Year, Chicago! The Packers beat the Bears at Soldier Field with Favre passing for 285 yards and a touchdown. It should be noted that the Bears were 13-2 entering the game and had nothing to play for.

**Sept. 10:** The Bears open the season with a 26-0 shutout of the Packers in Green Bay, the first of Favre's career. He threw two interceptions.

### 2005

**Dec. 25:** It's a somber Christmas in Green Bay as the Bears hand the Pack a 24-17 loss. Favre is intercepted four times, twice by Chris Harris. Lance Briggs returns his interception for a touchdown in the third quarter. A potential game-tying drive in the fourth quarter was squashed by Harris' second INT.

**Dec. 4:** Favre is picked off twice by the Bears D and also sacked twice in a 19-7 loss at a cold Soldier Field. Nathan Vasher turned one of Favre's interceptions into a game-sealing touchdown with 3:06 left in the game.



The Bears' Israel Idonije and Adewale Ogunleye (93) pressure the Falcons' Matt Ryan during a game in October.

JIM PRISCHING/TRIBUNE FILE

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# Air inferiority

**Bears' shaky pass defense to be put to the test in Green Bay**

## Associated Press

The passing insecurity Bears cornerback Corey Graham felt this week had little to do with the fact that he's just in his second season and lacks the resume of his accomplished teammates.

Something else was making him uncomfortable.

He wasn't alone, either.

The Bears are getting picked apart by passes and they're about to head to Green Bay, where the Packers rarely hand the ball off. So forgive Graham for being just a little concerned.

"Right now, everybody is on thin ice," he said. "It's real tense around here as far as the DBs. We know they throw the ball."

And he knows what happens when opponents do that.

Although they're not getting beaten by the deep ball, only two teams are allowing more yards per game than the Bears at 251.8. They've allowed at least 280 the past four games against Atlanta, Minnesota, Detroit and Tennessee. None of those teams ranks higher than 19th in yards passing.

The takeaways that were a trademark

**BEARS AT GREEN BAY**  
Noon Sunday, Fox

in the past aren't coming, either.

The Bears had just one against Tennessee last week—a fumble recovery by Graham—and did not pick off a pass. That gives them six interceptions in the last four games, with four coming against Minnesota on Oct. 19, and a heavy dose of angst.

Why?

"When you give up 300 yards to teams that don't normally throw the ball like that, it's going to be tense," said Graham, who started three games for the injured Nathan Vasher before playing the past two at nickel back. "It's our jobs on the line. We've got to go out there and be accountable."

Pressure from the defensive line would help, but instead, they're giving opposing quarterbacks enough time to burn them with quick slants. Kerry Collins did that last week while passing for a season-high 289 yards and leading Tennessee to a 21-14 victory.

Collins got sacked just once, and similar scenarios played out earlier in the season when the Bears played Tampa Bay and Atlanta.

The Buccaneers' Brian Griese was able to unleash 67 passes without being sacked in late September, and the Falcons' Matt Ryan remained on his feet despite throw-

ing 30 times. And while the Packers' Aaron Rodgers has been sacked four times in each of the past two games, he might be breathing a little easier this week.

"There are a lot of guys—including myself—who have to look in the mirror and say, 'What can I do better to make this team win games,'" said defensive end Adewale Ogunleye, who had a sack against Tennessee.

The Bears (5-4) expected their defense to get back to the dominant form it showed in 2005 and 2006 after an injury-wrecked 7-9 season last year, but the results are mixed.

The Bears are holding opponents to 74.9 yards rushing per game, and they insist there's no reason they can't shut down the passing game, too, even when they're using eight-man fronts. Linebackers Lance Briggs and Brian Urlacher have been faking blitzes by setting up at the line, but that seems to open up the short passes.

"You want to confuse your offensive linemen, give your defensive tackles an opportunity to get one-on-ones or free some of your defensive tackles up to get to the quarterback," Briggs said. "Being up there and making yourself accountable in that box, you can't be ignored."

## The Whiz Quiz

Think you know your stuff? Test your sports smarts against RedEye's prognosticating pooch Whizzer.

How many touchdown passes does Packers QB Aaron Rodgers have this season? Text "**quiz**" and the number of your answer to **47383**. I'll text ya back to tell you if you got the answer right or wrong.

1.7 2.8 3.10 4.13 5.17



## Give us the Kyledriver

Hurry back, Kyle Orton.

I see you're moving around, albeit a bit gingerly, and trying to play Sunday against the Packers.

All I can say is, if we can wheel you out there, it would be a massive improvement over Rex Grossman.

No offense to either good or bad Rex, but he stinks. Even good Rex. It's over for him in this town. He can't hit open receivers because he's just too short.

That's enough of the technical analysis. He was never tough enough mentally to play here. So let's lump him in with that other amazing No. 8, Cade McNown—or McNever, as it were.

As I said, Kyle, the ankle doesn't have to be perfect. Run the shotgun, find the open guy, hit him. If not, throw it away.

I also would like our DBs to come back this week. And they played last week!

Nathan Vasher, Charles Tillman—you stunk against a quarterback named Kerry. Man, that's weak.

Congratulations to Lou Piniella—NL Manager of the Year. Lou, the job isn't done. You know Ryan Dempster? Something tells me to let him go. You just know he had a career year with the Cubs—and he was nothing in the playoffs.

Derrick Rose can stay as long as he wants. I'm sorry he has a sore back, but here's a theory why: He's working extremely hard in all facets of the game—including rebounding. In other words, he's better than Joakim Noah and Tyrus Thomas at rebounding, and he also shoots, scores and passes. If Thomas and Noah can't rebound, they are truly, deeply, worthless. So is Ben Gordon. Unless he's wide open, he can't knock down a shot. And he's terrible on defense.

As I've said before, it's Rose and no one else—maybe Luol Deng, until the cavalry gets here. That should only take another eight to 10 years.



**sacked again**

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November 20th 10:30-11:30PM

**Gaslight**  
2426 N. Racine Ave.  
November 23rd 12:30-1:30PM



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# Face time

Tom Wardzala slums it with RedEye for this week's Facebook Fives. You can, too, by signing up at the address above.

TOPIC	SUPRIYA DOSHI <a href="mailto:sdoshi@tribune.com">sdoshi@tribune.com</a>	JIMMY GREENFIELD <a href="mailto:jgreenfield@tribune.com">jgreenfield@tribune.com</a>	THAT GUY <a href="mailto:redeyesports@tribune.com">redeyesports@tribune.com</a>	TOM WARDZALA <a href="mailto:redeyesports@tribune.com">redeyesports@tribune.com</a>	STANLEY'S CUP <a href="mailto:redeyesports@tribune.com">redeyesports@tribune.com</a>
<b>1</b> What are the chances of Kyle Orton playing Sunday at Green Bay?	Pretty good. He's got an itch (in his neckbeard) that needs scratching.	Strategy.	Better than Elizabeth calling me back. My response rate is slipping.	About as good as mine. And my outcome would be as good as Grossman's.	Less than the chances of me actually being the NHL title trophy.
<b>2</b> If the Packers had a mascot, what would it be?	Brett Favre's image on a stick ... with Aaron Rodgers' face taped on.	Brett Favre with a knife in his back. Oh, and the knife also is in cheese.	A giant pasty. Oh, I'm getting hungry.	A HUGE wheel of head cheese, and the smell would fit right in.	Brett Favre towering over a slain bear.
<b>3</b> Why can't Aaron Rodgers spell his last name correctly?	Same reason Orton grew a neckbeard—they'll do anything for the attention.	Beets the hell out of mee.	Before the operation, he was known as Erin Rodgers, so he gets confused.	He missed that day of "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood."	Aaron's his name, spelling's not his game.
<b>4</b> Time for word association. I say "Indiana Pacers," you say:	Reggie Miller. My NBA knowledge is stuck in the early '90s.	Jackie Moon.	My neurons aren't firing. They're dead to me.	"America's Most Wanted," including the almost wife-beater jerseys.	Another Bulls loss.
<b>5</b> What should Jimmie Johnson do to celebrate if he wins NASCAR's title?	Crack open a classy beer like Old Style instead of the typical Nattie Light.	Send all his fans a \$25 gas card.	Buy \$1M worth of lumber from Lowe's and construct the world's biggest trailer home.	Drive up and down the Dan Ryan puttin' people to the wall.	Dodge Tony Stewart's punches.

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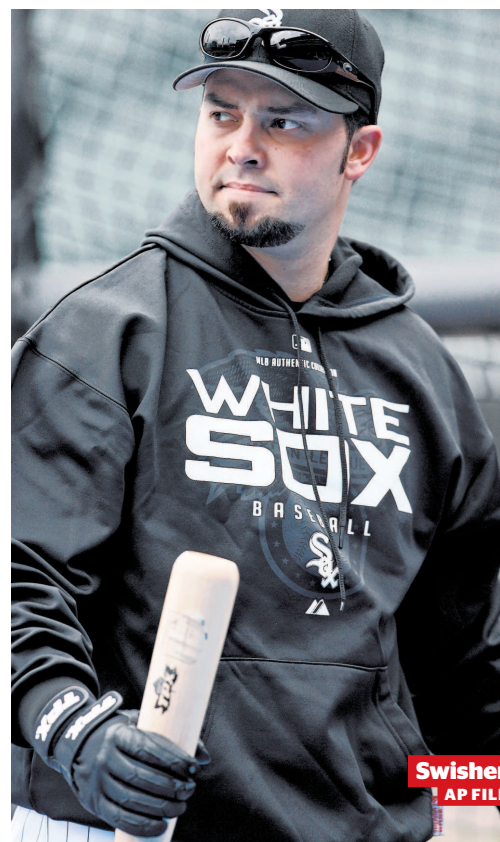
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**BASEBALL**

# Coming and going


**Wood**  
AP FILE

**Swisher**  
AP FILE

## Cubs, Wood to part ways

The Cubs acquired right-handed reliever Kevin Gregg from the Florida Marlins on Thursday, a move that means closer Kerry Wood won't return.

Wood, the 1998 NL Rookie of the Year who saved 34 games this year, had been the longest-tenured player on the Cubs. General Manager Jim Hendry said Wood was deserving of a three- or four-year deal and the Cubs are not prepared to offer him one.

"We're just in a situation—and Kerry fully understands—that length of deal for the kind of salary that he could command right now is not our first priority," Hendry said during a conference call.

He said the Cubs need to finish their rotation—they hope to bring back free agent starter Ryan Dempster—and add offense.

Wood made an immediate impact as a rookie when he struck out 20 Houston Astros in his fifth major-league start.

## Sox trade Swisher to Yankees

The Nick Swisher era is over after only one disappointing year.

The White Sox traded Swisher and right-handed minor-league pitcher Kanekoa Texeira to the New York Yankees for infielder Wilson Benemit and pitchers Jeff Marquez and Jhonny Nunez.

Swisher, 27, batted .219 and was relegated to part-time duty in the final two months.

Betemit, 27, a switch-hitter, gives the Sox a valuable backup infielder who batted .265 with six home runs and 25 RBIs in 87 games.

Marquez, 24, was 15-9 in 2007 at Double-A Trenton but was nagged by a lat pull in 2008. He was 6-7 with a 4.69 ERA in 14 starts at Triple-A Wilkes-Barre.

Nunez, 22, was a combined 1-0 with a 1.65 ERA with 34 strikeouts in 27 1/3 innings at Double-A Harrisburg and Trenton after the switch.



### SOX HITS

White Sox left fielder Carlos Quentin won his first American League Silver Slugger Award, given to the best offensive players at each position. The award is conducted by Louisville Slugger and voted on by the league's coaches and managers. Quentin batted .288 with 26 doubles, 36 home runs and 100 RBIs in 130 games.

**HOMETOWN HITS**


### CREW 2, FIRE 1

Chad Marshall and Eddie Gaven led Columbus to its first MLS Cup appearance, scoring second-half goals in the Crew's 2-1 victory over the Chicago Fire on Thursday night in the Eastern Conference final. Brian McBride, who played eight seasons for the Crew before leaving for the English Premier League in 2003, scored for the Fire in his first MLS game as a visiting player in Crew Stadium.



The injury-depleted Bulls signed former Detroit Pistons guard Lindsey Hunter. He was expected to join the team for its game Thursday against the Mavericks.



Former coach Denis Savard is back with the Blackhawks. A Hockey Hall of Fame player and one of the franchise's most popular figures, Savard returned to the organization as a team ambassador Thursday after being fired as coach last month.



### Next game Wolves at Rochester

6:30 p.m. Friday



### Next game Flames at Bradley Braves

7 p.m. Friday



### Next game Illinois at Eastern Washington

8:30 p.m. Friday, Big Ten Network



### Next game Ramblers at Rockhurst

7 p.m. Friday

### THURSDAY'S RESULTS

» Bulls 98, Dallas 90

**HIT AND RUN**

### THURSDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL Patriots vs. Jets

The game did not end before press time.

### BOXING

#### Holyfield fights for title

Evander Holyfield will challenge 7-foot Russian giant Nikolai Valuev for the WBA crown on Dec. 20 at Hallenstadion in Zurich.

### MLB

#### Lee wins Cy Young

Cliff Lee won the American League Cy Young Award in a runaway Thursday, making him the second consecutive Cleveland Indians lefty to earn the honor.

## watch dog

### WHIZZER

redeyesports  
@tribune.com

I had this crazy idea of setting up a Whizzer cam and streaming the video on the Internet.

It'd be cool. My fans could watch me in action as I craft these fine pieces of prose. But then I thought: No one watches live video of dogs online, do they?

Here now, my TV picks.

### NHL Blackhawks vs. St. Louis

7:30 p.m. CSN

Friday night. On-the-glass seats. What could be better? A fight, of course! Oh, and a win.

### NBA Detroit at L.A. Lakers

9:30 p.m. ESPN

Kobe and the Lakers are undefeated—kinda makes you sick to your stomach, doesn't it?

### COPS AND JOCKS

*Athletes can't seem to stay out of trouble, and we can't seem to look away.*

### WVU players charged

West Virginia football players Maxwell Anderson, 21, and 20-year-old Jeremy Kash have been charged with battery stemming from an incident at a Morgantown bar in late October. They will be arraigned Dec. 3.



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# metromix



## Solid gold

Test your sipping skills during a bar Olympics, pinot noir tasting and more

## PICK OF THE WEEK

### weekend best bets

By Beth Geraci  
METROMIX@TRIBUNE.COM

#### Golden opportunity

Think you can drink like a champ? Go for the gold during **Witt's Beer Olympics**. Teams of four face off in darts, flippy cup, beer pong and quarters tournaments for a chance to win \$150 cash or a 2-liter beer glass shaped like a boot. Admission includes Miller Lite and Bud Light drafts, select cocktails, Busch Light cans and

snacks. Doors open at 7 p.m.; registration required by 7:30 p.m. Friday. \$120 per team. 2913 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-528-7032.

## PARTY PICK

### Icy hot

Whether you're red hot or uber-cool, you'll fit right in at **Spin's Fire and Ice Party**. Let the body-painted staff and live performances by local fire-breathing troupe Pyrotechniq get your temperature rising, then cool down with drinks at the giant ice shotski (i.e. a frozen ski adorned with shot glasses). Drag queen Teri Yaki hosts and performs live at midnight; DJ Chris Eterno and VJ Terp bring the beats. 10 p.m. Friday. No cover. 800 W. Belmont Ave. 773-327-7711.

## BEST OF THE REST

### Hello, pinot

See red—in a good way—at **Pinot Days Chicago Grand Festival**. Sample more than 200 pinot noirs during this second annual tasting featuring wines from California, Oregon, New Zealand, Germany, France and more. Highlights include wine from California's Gary Farrell, Calera and Goldeneye vineyards plus nearly 60 other producers. Includes cheese and dessert pairings and a chance to meet winemakers. 1 p.m. Saturday. \$50. Navy Pier, 600 E. Grand Ave. 415-246-2967.

### Seasonal remix

'Tis the season for Redmoon Theater's annual **Winter Pageant Redux**. Seven masked characters take a dreamlike journey through changing landscapes representing the four seasons during this large-scale Redmoon spectacle. The artistic production comes to life with puppets, songs and elaborate sets made from typewriters, beds and other everyday items. 2, 5 and 8 p.m. Saturday; 2 and 5 p.m. Sunday. Through Dec. 21. \$10-\$15. Redmoon Central, 1463 W. Hubbard St. 312-850-8440.

### Reeling it in

Missed the nearly 70 flicks on tap at Reeling 2008: Chicago Lesbian and Gay International Film Festival? Never fear. There's still time to catch the **Reeling Film Festival Closing Night Extravaganza**. The festival wraps up with fashion documentary "Jay McCarroll:

Eleven Minutes," chronicling the "Project Runway" Season 1 winner as he readies for his first independent runway show. A post-screening reception at Salon 1800 (157 W. North Ave.) includes appetizers, cocktails and a chance to meet McCarroll, who also will attend the screening, and see his designs. 7 p.m. Sunday. \$38-\$40; \$13-\$15 for film only. Piper's Alley Theater, 1608 N. Wells St. 773-293-1447. Tickets: [reelingfilmfestival.org](http://reelingfilmfestival.org)

### Profane puppetry

Had a long week? Shrug it off at "**The Fu\*\*it Show**." Cabaret artist Amy Armstrong, stand-up comic Lloyd Young III and a cast of three others inspire laughs during this R-rated sketch comedy puppet show. The montage features roughly 20 handmade Muppet-like dolls, plus songs, music and video interludes rife with foul language and irreverent takes on politics and religion. Expect puppet renditions of Sarah Palin, Jesus, George Bush and others. 8 p.m. Sunday. \$10. Holiday Club, 4000 N. Sheridan Rd. 773-348-9600.

### Tat's entertainment

If you're ready to get inked, go big at the **Chicago Tattoo Arts Convention**. More than 200 international tattoo artists are on hand for the three-day affair, with special appearances by renowned artists Corey Kruger, Jack Rudy, Hannah Aitchison and others. Tattoo contests, vendor booths, art displays and daily entertainment by burlesque dancer Miss Maya Sinstress and tattooed sword swallower-musician The Enigma add extra color. 2 p.m. Friday; noon Saturday and Sunday. \$15 per day; \$35 for weekend pass. Hyatt Regency Chicago, 151 E. Wacker Drive. 312-565-1234.



**ADDICTION SPORTS BAR AND GRILL**  
\$4 Harp, Bass and Guinness bottles, \$5 glasses of wine; 1023 W. Lake St., Chicago, 312-421-8845.

**ASHLAND**  
\$11 domestic buckets, \$2 mystery beer bottles; 2824 N. Ashland Ave. 773-883-7297.

**BAR CELONA AND GRILL**  
\$4 Bacardi bombs, \$5 martinis, \$6 paninis; 3474 N. Clark St. 773-244-8000.

**THE BEER BISTRO**  
\$4 draft of the month; 1061 W. Madison St. 312-433-0013.

**THE CENTRAL**  
\$5 martinis, \$5 Bacardi bombs, \$5 appetizers; 3466 N. Clark St. 773-880-2222.

**CLUB ROYALE**  
6 p.m.: Cocktails and Connections. DJs Markfullaflava and I.N.C. spin. Cover varies;

205 N. Peoria St. 312-666-9400.

**CRESCENDO**  
8 p.m.: Ladies' Night Out. A ladies-only party includes martinis, appetizers, shopping and spa services such as manicures, massages, makeovers and waxing. \$25-\$35. Tickets: [shequechicago.com](http://shequechicago.com); 222 W. Ontario St. 312-638-9033.

**GASLIGHT BAR AND GRILLE**  
\$3 SoCo Lime shots, \$5 Sofia champagne cans, \$15 Miller Lite buckets; 2426 N. Racine Ave. 773-929-7759.

**GOODBAR**  
\$5 martinis and bombs; 2512 N. Halsted St. 773-296-9700.

**GOOSE ISLAND BREWPUB**  
\$1 off beer of the day; half-price appetizers (4-6 p.m.); 1800 N. Clybourn Ave. 312-915-0071.



## Here to stay

Goose Island's Clybourn brewpub has canceled its December closing and re-signed a lease for the next three to five years. Celebrate with half-price apps from 4-6 p.m. **FILE FOR METROMIX**

**THE GRAND CENTRAL**  
\$5 Bacardi bombs and Absolut martinis, \$5 appetizers; 950 W. Wrightwood Ave. 773-832-4000.

**HIDEOUT**  
\$2 PBR and Old Style cans, \$2.50 Berghoff bottles; 1354 W.

Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

**INNJOY**  
\$4 Heineken, Heineken Light and Amstel Light bottles, \$6 Jager bombs, DJ Scratch-n-Sniff spins; 2051 W. Division St. 773-394-2066.

**KIRKWOOD BAR & GRILL**  
\$5 Absolut cocktails; 2934 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-770-0700.

**THE MOTEL BAR**  
\$5 Absolut cocktails, \$8 blackened catfish sandwiches, DJ Scott Lucas of Local H spins

rock and alternative 10 p.m.-2 a.m.; 600 W. Chicago Ave. 312-822-2900.

**PURPLE OTTER**  
\$5 one-topping pizzas, \$12 domestic buckets; 2706 N. Ashland Ave. 773-248-3331.

**REDNOFIVE**  
10 p.m.: Ready... Set...Row afterparty. Chicago native and People Magazine "hot bachelor of the 2008" Montana Butsch guest bartends during the second annual fundraiser. \$20; 440 N. Halsted St. 312-733-6699.

**SEDGWICK'S**  
\$5 Long Island iced teas, \$5 specialty martinis, half-price appetizers (4-7 p.m.), free food buffet 11 p.m.; 1935 N. Sedgwick St. 312-337-7900.

**SOUND-BAR**  
Release Friday. DJs Danny Boy, Inphinity, Mark Centennial, Polbeeta, Joseph Durant and Billy the Kid spin. \$20. RSVP at [sound-bar.com](http://sound-bar.com) for reduced admission; 226 W. Ontario St. 312-787-4480.

**SPIN**  
10 p.m.: Fire and Ice Party. A themed bash features appetizers,

a giant ice shotski, firebreathers and bodypainted wait staff. DJ Chris Eterno spins dance and house, and VJ Terp plays pop videos. Drag queen Teri Yaki hosts and gives a midnight performance. No cover; 800 W. Belmont Ave. 773-327-7711.

**UNCLE FATTY'S RUM RESORT**  
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**THE UNDERGROUND**  
9 p.m.: Private Eyes Fashion Show. See fall trends from local boutique Akira as models strut the catwalk in a James Bond-themed show celebrating the spy series' new release, "Quantum of Solace." \$20. No cover before midnight with RSVP: [vip@rockitranch.com](mailto:vip@rockitranch.com); 56 W. Illinois St. 312-644-7600.

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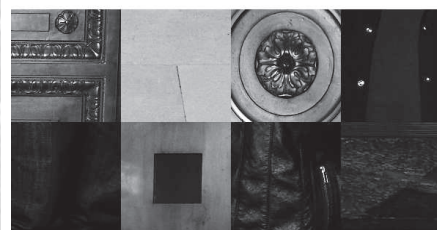
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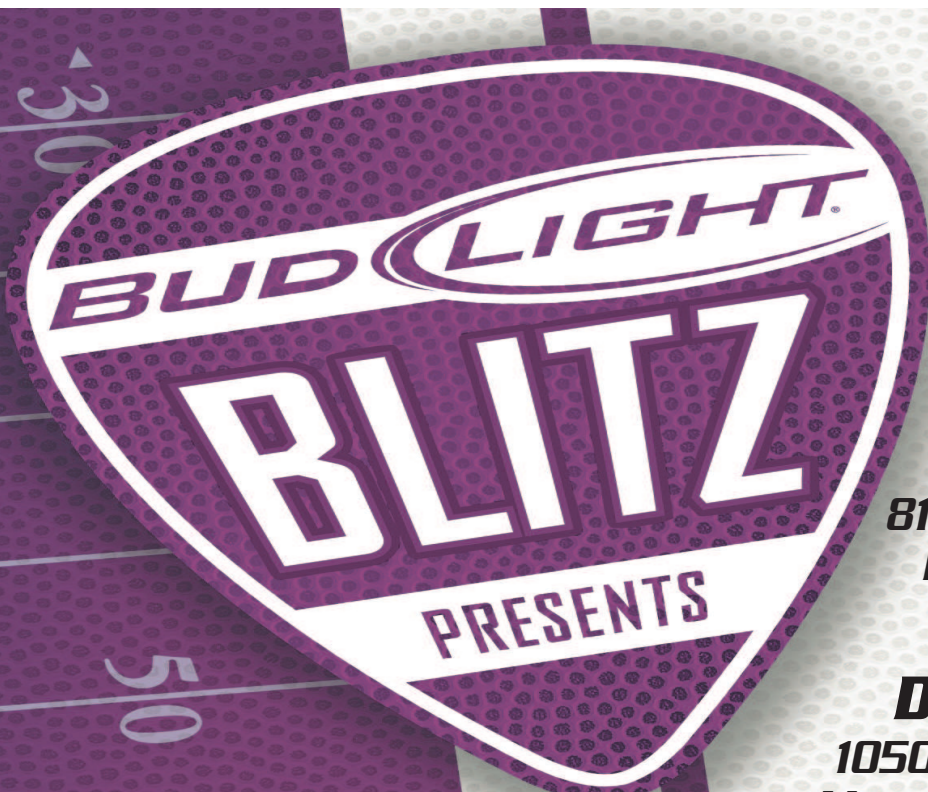
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**BEN WEASEL, THE CHALLENGED, THE GIRLS**  
5 p.m. \$15. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

**CHICAGO NOISE MACHINE, A BIRDSONG VALENTINE, ALGREN, BULLET CALLED LIFE, ECHOSON, HEAVY THE FALL, LUCID GROUND, REVERIE, 72 HOURS, SIMPLISTIC**  
7 p.m. \$10. Cubby Bear, 1059 W. Addison St. 773-327-1662.

**THE CLARKS, THE HEYDAY, TIME BOMB SYMPHONY**  
9:30 p.m. \$12-\$14. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. housecallent.com

**ERIC JERADI BAND**  
10 p.m. \$10-\$12. House of Blues Back Porch Stage, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

**THE FLESHTONES, THE HENTCHMEN, MOTO**  
8 p.m. \$12-\$15. Bottom Lounge, 1375 W. Lake St. 312-666-6775.

**THE HANDCUFFS, THE BON MOTS, LE CONCORDE**  
9 p.m. \$6-\$8. Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408.

**HELLO DAVE, ASH AVE**  
10 p.m. \$10-\$12. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

**ICED EARTH, EARLY MAN, DIRGE, SEPTER**  
6:15 p.m. \$25. Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 773-549-0203.

**JACKOPIERCE**  
8 p.m. \$27.50. Park West, 322 W. Armitage Ave. 312-559-1212.

**KRAAK AND SMAAK, ORCHARD LOUNGE**  
10 p.m. \$15. Subterranean,

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9 p.m. Fri. \$8-\$10. darkroom, 2210 W. Chicago Ave. 773-276-1411.

**THE HOLD STEADY**  
Grab a beer, raise your fist and get ready to sing along. With Drive By Truckers. 8 p.m. Fri. \$27.50. Riviera Theatre, 4746 N. Racine Ave. 312-559-1212.

**VERONA RED**  
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locals' new CD, "Side Effects." With Moxie Motive. 8:30 p.m. Fri. \$8. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

**SEA AND CAKE**  
Chicago rock vets play songs from acclaimed new, "Car Alarm." With Death Vessel. 7 and 10 p.m. Sat. \$16-\$18. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

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**LET'S GET OUT OF THIS TERRIBLE SANDWICH SHOP, THE MUGS**  
10 p.m. \$8. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

**MARY LOU LORD, BLAKE ZWEIG**  
7 p.m. \$12. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

**MINUS THE GIRL, RED CITY, FARWELL, LOBSTER NEWBERG**  
8:30 p.m. \$9. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

**PATTI AUSTIN WITH THE CHICAGO JAZZ ENSEMBLE**  
8 p.m. \$15-\$45. Harris Theater for Music and Dance in Millennium Park, 205 E. Randolph Drive. 312-334-7777.

**THE REGAL STANDARD, BABY TEETH, THE ASTRONOMER**  
10 p.m. \$8. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave.

773-227-4433.

**THREE6 MAFIA, KARDINAL OFFICIAL, BABY BASH, RAY J**  
7:30 p.m. \$40. Congress Theatre, 2135 N. Milwaukee Ave. 888-512-7469.

## Saturday

**ALL TIME LOW, MAYDAY PARADE, THE MAINE, EVERY AVENUE, THE MORNING LIGHT**  
7 p.m. Sold out. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

**BARONESS, COLISEUM, MINSK, (LONE) WOLF AND CUB**  
7 p.m. \$12. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

**BEN WEASEL, THE CHALLENGED, THE GIRLS**  
2 p.m. \$15. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

**BILL URA DIK, WASTE BASKET,**

**THE LUSTIES**  
11 p.m. Cover varies. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

**BROOKE WAGGONER, NATHAN XANDER**  
6:30 p.m. \$10. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. housecallent.com

**DEERHUNTER, TIMES NEW VIKING, DISAPPEARS**  
7 p.m. \$17. Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 773-549-0203.

**DEVIN THE DUDE, COUGHEE BROTHAZ, VERBAL KENT, QUE BILLAH, PROBC AND THE DH**  
9 p.m. \$15. Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408.

**THE END OF THE WORLD, THEE HARDY MUMS**  
9 p.m. \$10. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

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«« page 25

**HOLLY GOLIGHTLY AND THE BROKEOFFS, THE THIN MAN**  
9:30 p.m. \$12.  
Subterranean,  
2011 W. North Ave.  
housecallent.com

**THE INTERIORS, V SPARKS**  
10 p.m. \$6-\$9. Bottom  
Lounge, 1375 W. Lake  
St. 312-666-6775.

**MOVIMIENTO SONIDERO, CARROW SHOW Y FRUKO**  
7 p.m. \$35. Aragon  
Ballroom, 1106 W.  
Lawrence Ave. 312-559-  
1212.

**PEGBOY, REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY, IRON REMINDERS**  
10:30 p.m. \$13-\$15.  
Beat Kitchen, 2100  
W. Belmont Ave.  
mpshows.com

**ROBYN HITCHCOCK**  
7 and 10 p.m. \$31-\$35.  
Old Town School of  
Folk Music, 4544 N.

Lincoln Ave. 773-728-  
6000.

**STEEL TRAIN, DEAR AND THE HEADLIGHTS, FORGIVE DURDEN, EMPIRES**  
5 p.m. \$12. Bottom  
Lounge, 1375 W. Lake  
St. 312-666-6775.

**TOM SCHRAEDER AND HIS EGO, MARK PICKEREL, THE PRETTY GOOD DANCE MOVE DJS**  
10 p.m. \$10. Schubas,  
3159 N. Southport Ave.  
773-525-2508.

**VIDEO GAMES LIVE**  
8 p.m. \$37.50-\$75.  
The Chicago Theatre,  
175 N. State St. 312-559-  
1212.

### Sunday

**ALL TIME LOW, MAYDAY PARADE, THE MAINE, EVERY AVENUE, THE MORNING LIGHT**  
6 p.m. Sold out.  
House of Blues, 329 N.  
Dearborn St. 312-923-  
2000.

**ATMOSPHERE, ABSTRACT RUDE, BLUEPRINT, DJ RARE GROOVE**  
7:30 p.m. \$20. Vic  
Theatre, 3145 N.  
Sheffield Ave. 312-559-  
1212.

**BRIAN WILSON**  
8 p.m. \$35-\$75. The  
Chicago Theatre,  
175 N. State St. 312-559-  
1212.

**CLOUD CULT, THE DARE DEVIL, CHRISTOPHER WRIGHT, JEREMY MESSERSMITH**  
9 p.m. \$15-\$17.  
Double Door, 1572 N.  
Milwaukee Ave. 773-  
489-3160.

**HAUSCHKA, DAVID DANIELL**  
9 p.m. \$8-\$10. Schubas,  
3159 N. Southport  
Ave. 773-525-2508.

**HELLOGOODBYE, ACE ENDERS, PLAYRADIOPLAY!, NEVER SHOUT NEVER**  
6:30 p.m. \$15. Metro,  
3730 N. Clark St. 773-  
549-0203.

**THE HOUSE THAT GLORIA VANDERBILT, TRICLOPSI, MEAH!, THE BITTER WIGS**  
9 p.m. \$6-\$8. Reggie's  
Rock Club, 2109 S.  
State St. 312-949-0120.

**HUSBAND AND WIFE, DEATH SHIPS, BLASTED DIPLOMATS, TABLE AND CHAIRS**  
8:30 p.m. \$8.  
Subterranean,  
2011 W. North Ave.  
housecallent.com

**MC CHRIS, TOTALLY MICHAEL, THE DELICIOUS**  
9 p.m. \$15. Abbey Pub,  
3420 W. Grace St. 773-  
478-4408.

**SHOTGUN PARTY, TANGLEWEED**  
8:30 p.m. \$8. Hideout,  
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773-227-4433.

**VITALLIGHT, THE NEW DIET, ALL THE DAY HOLIDAY**  
5 p.m. \$8. Reggie's Rock  
Club, 2109 S. State St.  
312-949-0120.

### ON-SALE TICKETS

#### On sale 10 a.m. Friday

**Maz Jobrani,**  
Saturday, Feb. 14  
(\$29.50, all ages) at  
Lakeshore Theater.

**Katy Perry, Alpha Beat,** Thursday,  
March 26 (\$18-\$20,  
17+) at House of  
Blues.

#### On sale 10 a.m. Saturday

**2\*Sweet, Fireworks, This Time Next Year,**  
Saturday, Dec. 20  
(\$10-\$14, all ages) at  
Subterranean.

**Cut Copy, Matt and Kim,** Wednesday,  
March 18 (\$22-\$25, all  
ages) at Vic Theatre.

**Dark Star Orchestra,** Thursday,  
Feb. 26 (\$25, 18+) at  
Vic Theatre.

**Kings of Leon,**  
Saturday, Jan. 24

(\$85-\$150, all ages) at  
House of Blues.

**Lil Wayne, T-Pain, Keyshia Cole, Gym Class Heroes,**  
Saturday, Dec. 27  
(\$45.75-\$85.75, all  
ages) at United  
Center.

**Moe.,** Friday, Feb.  
27, Saturday, Feb. 28  
(\$27.50-\$31, 18+) at  
Riviera Theatre.

**The Musical Box,**  
Thursday, Jan.  
15, Friday, Jan. 16  
(\$43.50, all ages) at  
Vic Theatre.

**Brad Paisley,** Friday,  
Jan. 30 (\$24.75-  
\$52.25, all ages) at  
iWireless Center,  
Moline.

#### On sale noon Saturday

**Animal Collective,**  
Thursday, Jan. 22  
(\$25, all ages) at  
Metro.



Lil Wayne

**Jimmy Eat World, Reubens Accomplish,**  
Saturday, Feb. 28  
(\$32.50, all ages) at  
Metro.

**Kill Hannah, Innerpartysystem, Go Motion, Dark Wave Disco DJs,**  
Saturday, Dec. 20  
(\$20, all ages) at  
Metro.

**Liquid Soul,** Sunday,  
Jan. 18 (\$10, 21+) at  
Double Door.

**Lykke Li,** Saturday,

Feb. 7 (\$18, all ages)  
at Metro.

#### On sale 10 a.m. Monday

**Gipsy Kings,**  
Saturday, Feb.  
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#### On sale now

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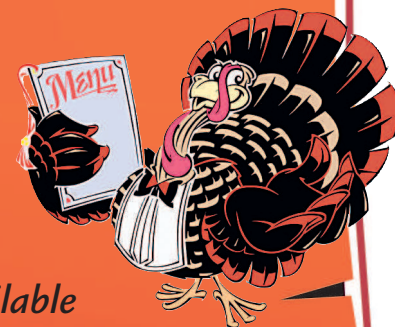
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A close-up portrait of Barack Obama, smiling broadly and looking upwards and to the left. He is wearing a dark blue suit, a white shirt, and a blue and yellow striped tie. A small American flag pin is visible on his lapel.

**the beginning**



11.14.08



# THEN & NOW

## December 2004

Riding high after a landslide victory in his U.S. Senate race in November 2004 and a rousing speech at the Democratic National Convention a few months prior, a fresh-faced Barack Obama told RedEye he was getting used to the thrill of being able to “get on the phone, call anybody you want and they’ll take your call.”

Four years later, the rookie senator-in-waiting is a rookie president-in-waiting, the central figure in a history-making campaign that will give the nation its first black president. Here, RedEye takes a look back at our interview with Obama, published Dec. 6, 2004. We also note how some things have changed in four short years with a then-and-now comparison.

## Fast forward

### Warren Buffett

Obama doesn’t just lunch with Buffett now. Buffett, the famed billionaire investor nicknamed the “Oracle of Omaha,” serves as a member of the president-elect’s economic transition team. At an appearance in Nebraska with Buffett in August 2007, Obama said he gets plenty of advice on the campaign trail, but “Warren Buffett is one of those people that I listen to.”

**By Alison Neumer**  
REDEYE

In “Obama: The Movie,” the newest senator from Illinois envisions Denzel playing the title role. Then he admits the Oscar-winner might be “a little too good-looking.”

But Barack Obama, starstruck when he met Robin Williams and Stevie Wonder on the campaign trail, has become a star in his own right. He prefers martinis to beer, leaves adoring fans in his wake and recently was seen TV-hopping on the media circuit like P. Diddy pimping a new album.

Obama catapulted into the national eye this summer after a home-run speech at the Democratic National Convention, and the celebrity buzz has since become deafening.

Last month he charmed his way through appearances on “Late Show with David Letterman” and “The View” to promote his memoir, “Dreams from My Father.” Letterman went to town on Obama’s name, while “View” co-host Barbara Walters compared him to Nelson Mandela.

In an interview with RedEye last week, however, Obama waved his hand as if to bat away the talk about celebrity. Either Obama was weary of the label or still recovering from a bout of stomach flu. “I was flying out to have lunch with Warren Buffett,” he says, “so my whole goal of the day was not to throw up on him.”

Nor does Obama’s campaign headquarters on the 17th floor of a downtown Chicago building jell with the picture of Mr. Rock Star Politician.

Obama’s narrow office is plain and mostly boxed up, except for a few items. On the wall hangs a framed black-and-white poster of Muhammad Ali in the ring, which will travel to Washington along with the senator-elect. “That’s been my good luck charm,” he says.

Luck. Yeah, that’s it.

The hoopla is over, Obama explains in his thoughtful, deliberate manner.

“Campaigning is fun and gratifying, but the reason I’m in this is to do the work,” the former state senator says.

The campaign had its perks, Obama admits, like the night Williams and Wonder performed at a fundraising event.

“I grew up on Stevie Wonder. He sort of provided the soundtrack to my youth, so having him there right up on stage doing a concert to help my campaign, that was the one time I had to pinch myself,” he said.

Yet all the attention—such as traveling with an entourage of aides—seemed a bit much for the former university professor who hailed his own cab in Washington last month, thank you very much.



Obama walks with his family from the U.S. Capitol after he was sworn in on Jan. 4, 2005. **PETE SOUZA/TRIBUNE FILE**

“That’s not my style,” he says. Obama drove himself everywhere, in his own car, up until a few months before the primary, when his campaign staff finally persuaded him to get a driver to chauffeur him around in a black SUV.

A-list celebs have no qualms traveling with a posse—P. Diddy had someone to hold his umbrella and even Hillary Clinton has someone to carry her purse—but Obama’s ideal crew contains just his wife, Michelle, and two daughters, Sasha and Malia.

“Whenever I can hang with them, I’m happy.”

The real satisfaction of the campaign, he says, was connecting with people. “People the conventional wisdom said you could never connect with. Sitting in some diner or VFW hall, talking to farmers and finding out you had a lot in common.”

Now it’s game-time. As a rookie, Obama will work out of a small, window-less basement office in the U.S. Senate for the next three or four months before settling into more permanent digs. He’ll stagger out of bed in the morning, not an easy task for this night owl who hits his stride after dark. He’ll assume the jet-setter’s life, traveling back to Chicago nearly every weekend.

But the biggest perk of office, Obama says, is having access to the smartest people in the country and their ideas.

“You can get on the phone, call anybody you want and they’ll take your phone call,” he says. “I can call Warren Buffett and ask him what he thinks about the economy. I can call former national security advisers and ask them what they think about nuclear proliferation. I can call great writers and ask them what we can do to encourage literacy.

“That’s a lot of fun.”

### Transportation

Obviously, Obama is chauffeured almost everywhere he goes now, and he’s had a Secret Service security detail in tow since he was in the middle of his campaign. Soon he’ll have exclusive use of Air Force One and other presidential travel perks.

He’ll have to land at O’Hare in Air Force One, but with helicopters and police escorts at his disposal, he probably won’t have to worry about any traffic if he’s headed to the South Side.



### Workspace

Let’s just say Obama has upgraded his offices; in a few months he’ll have some pretty nicely appointed new office space—the White House. And if Obama’s still a night owl, he’s sure pulling a fast one on us. Countless stories have mentioned Obama’s penchant for getting up and getting a workout in before putting in a full day of official business.

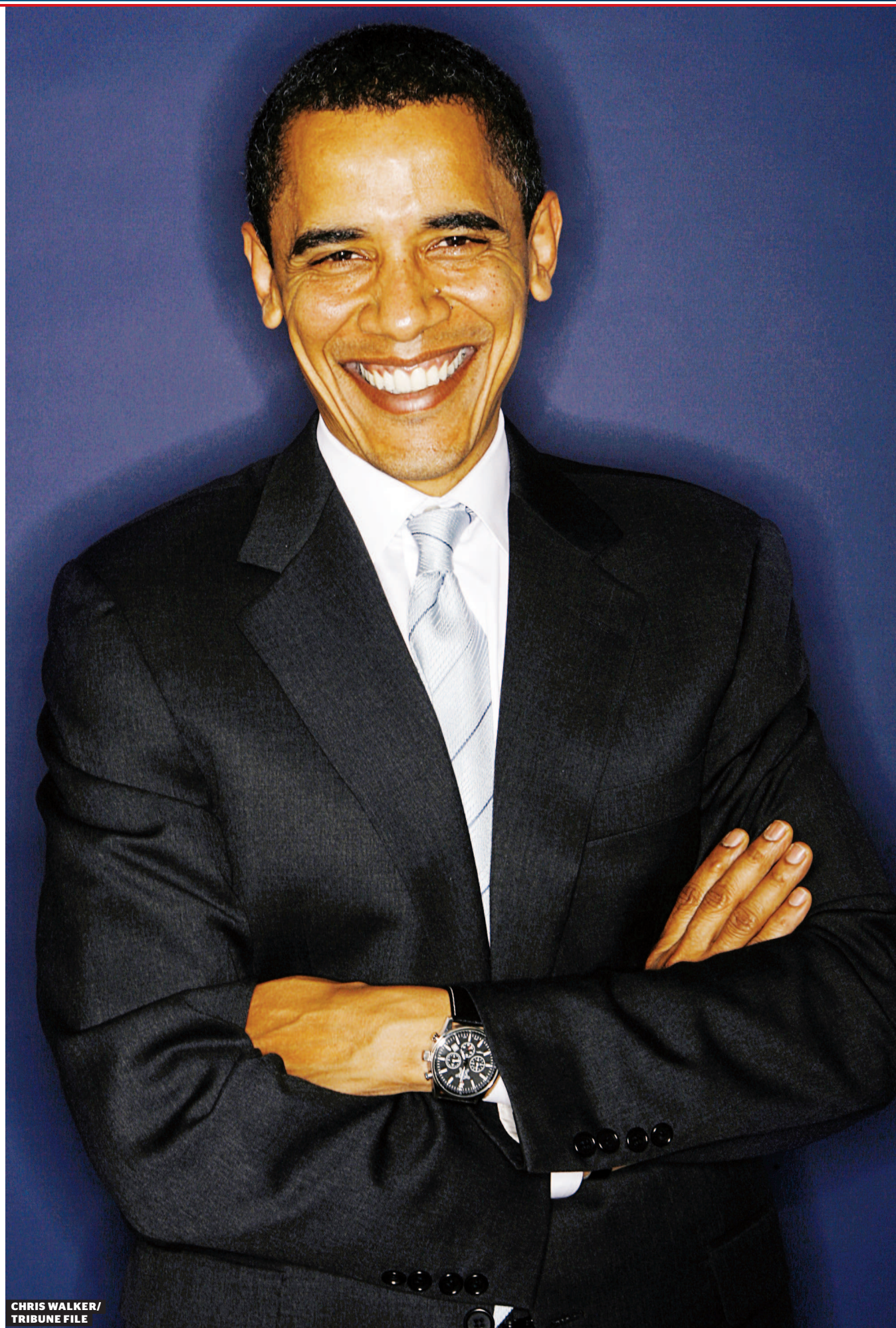


### Celeb connections

Obama is now a lot more comfortable with the notion of celebrity. He has a huge fan in Oprah Winfrey and attended a star-studded fundraiser at her California estate in September 2007.

Since then, stars including—but not limited to—George Clooney, Jay-Z and Scarlett Johansson have voiced their unabashed support for Obama. Will.i.am of the Black Eyed Peas even wrote two songs inspired by the president-elect.



CHRIS WALKER/  
TRIBUNE FILE

## Obama favorites



### Actor to portray him in a movie

"I'd love to say Denzel [Washington], but he'd be a little too good-looking. I do have a friend named Harry Lennox from Chicago, an actor at the Goodman, who

people always say looks just like me."

### Food

"Nuts, that's my big snack food. I always have some almonds around. ... But I'll be honest: fried chicken wings. If they're in front of me, I just can't resist them. I just go nuts."



### Heroes in history

"Some people in politics—Lincoln, FDR, Gandhi, King—then there's people outside politics like Picasso or John Coltrane. When I think about what binds them together, I'm enamored with people who change the framework, who

don't take something as a given, but scramble it. So Gandhi being able to say what looks like weakness can be a strength and Picasso mastering realism and then flipping it."

### Household chores

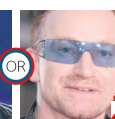
"I'm pretty diligent about doing the dishes at night, or at least getting them in the dishwasher. I can't say I enjoy it, but my wife has trained me. I enjoy doing the laundry, but not folding up the clothes afterward, which she sees as a failing of mine."

## Barack's '04 ballot

Being a leader means making tough decisions. Sen.-elect Obama weighed in on some of RedEye's hard-hitting questions.



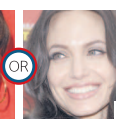
Jay-Z



U2



Halle



Angelina



Mac



PC



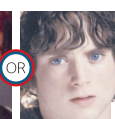
Beer



Martini



Star Wars

Lord of  
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# COVERING BARACK OBAMA

A LOOK BACK AT THE NEW PRESIDENT-ELECT  
ON THE COVER OF REDEYE





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# pop

## Bond girls still special, tricky to cast

### The Orlando Sentinel

They don't call them "Bond babes" anymore.

The producers of the James Bond films have evolved, as has Bond himself. Ian Fleming's secret agent is a little less sexist.

Fleming's double-entendre names—Pussy Galore, Holly Goodhead? Not totally gone. "Strawberry Fields," a redheaded Gemma Arterton, makes her bow in the latest Bond film, "Quantum of Solace."

But it's no longer politically correct to simply find this year's "dish" to fill the role that women from Ursula Andress and Jane Seymour to Halle Berry and Eva Green have filled before.

"Always very difficult to cast, especially these days," said producer Barbara Broccoli.

In "Quantum of Solace," Arterton does the eye-candy role while model-turned-actress Olga Kurylenko plays the cunning Camille, who doesn't sleep with the spy.

"'Casino Royale' inspired me to try for this role," said Kurylenko, who turns 29 on Friday, the day "Quantum" opens. "We definitely saw a change in attitude both in Bond and the women around him—-independent, smart, a lot of personality."

Kurylenko remembered the other "Bond girls" who came before her. The one lesson taken from 22 films in the Bond franchise, at least as far as the ladies are concerned?

"If you sleep with Bond, you die. If you don't ..."



Gemma Arterton as "Strawberry Fields"  
SONY PICTURES



Daniel Craig and Olga Kurylenko in "Quantum of Solace"  
SONY PICTURES

# The new Bond girl

## Olga Kurylenko braves fire, water to get close to 007

### By Matt Pais

Being a Bond girl isn't easy. Just ask Olga Kurylenko, who endured a month of four-hour-a-day training sessions before starring in the latest Bond flick, "Quantum of Solace," which opens Friday.

"I've never done so much training," Kurylenko, who turns 29 Friday, told RedEye during a recent interview. "The first day was hard because my body was not used to it, and everything hurt."

To play Camille, a Bolivian bombshell who teams up with 007, the Ukrainian-born actress also worked incessantly on her accent, recording friends from Spain and Argentina and learning the different dynamics to different accents.

At the Trump International Hotel, she talked about the rigorous shoot and her fear of flying out of a boat.

### You did a lot of work to prepare for the movie. What was it like to train for the skydiving scene in a wind tunnel?

I remember after the first session, the next morning I woke up, and I couldn't lift my arms up. When you fly you have to do certain positions. You're upright with your body, you decide whether you go up or down, left or right, if you turn, spin, if you want to turn on your back and fly on your back—that's really hard. By the end of the month, I could stay 40 minutes in that tunnel and nothing hurt. ... I would go back to the tunnel just for fun.

### How grueling was shooting the big, climactic fire scene?

Because there was real fire around us, they had to cover us in this special anti-fire gel, which is horrible because it's so cold. ... I was freezing, and I kept saying, "Let me go in the fire! I want to go in." I wanted to get warm. But the moment you step in the fire, you get hot like hell. It's incredible. Everything burns. It's just really extremes. You're cold with the gel and then you go in the fire, and you're suddenly beyond hot.

### Were there any scenes that you didn't know you'd be able to do?

I think the difficult scene for me was the boat scene. It was very, very intense. Because the boat was going very fast and there were waves in the ocean and the boat kept jumping up and down, we had sound guys falling out of the boats. I don't know how we didn't fall out because we couldn't hold on. We had to fight. So we had to be really stable on our feet and somehow get it done.

MATT PAIS IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.



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# Culture club

'Slumdog' director embraces filmmaking, Bollywood-style



Dev Patel (left) and Freida Pinto in "Slumdog Millionaire"  
FOX SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES

## Los Angeles Daily News

A director knows he's in Bollywood-land when one of his stars has to pencil him in for the next shoot.

"What really surprised me was that, when you hire an actor in the West, even the big stars are usually unemployed at the time," said Danny Boyle, an Englishman who never had set foot in India before he signed on to direct "Slumdog Millionaire." The fanciful story of a poor kid's rise from Mumbai's sprawling slums opened Wednesday.

"There, everybody ... is doing three or four films at the same time. You think it's an insult when you say to [one of 'Slumdog's' stars] Irfan Khan, 'OK, tomorrow we're doing the next scene,' and he says, 'I can't come tomorrow. I can come next Thursday between 6 and 10 in the evening.' You're about to explode, but you just back off."

Backing off seems to have worked, because "Slumdog Millionaire"—a mix of unbridled romanticism, real-world horror and fairy-tale wish fulfillment—has received rousing reactions from North American film festival crowds and many critics.

"In many ways, you'd think it's a very bad idea," said Boyle, whose eclectic filmography includes "Trainspotting," "The Beach" and "28 Days Later."

"How could you ever possibly get it? And in fact, I don't really like those films where white guys go off into India or Africa. I find them really phony. ...

"The only thing I could say in defense—but I'm not sure I thought of this at the time—is that often an outsider's perspective is really good. Especially in a city with its multifaceted behavior and complexity."

Boyle shot many of the movie's scenes in Mumbai's 1-million-plus populated Dharavi slum and another metropolitan shantytown called Juhu.

Adapted from the novel "Q & A," "Slumdog" charts the Dickensian, often traumatic experiences of Jamal Malik (Dev Patel), who inexplicably gets to the final 20-million-rupee question on India's version of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?" His experiences as a poverty-stricken youth have informed his answers on the high-stakes game show, but they've drawn the suspicion of the program's cagey host (Anil Kapoor) and a hard-nosed yet empathetic police inspector (Khan of "A Mighty Heart").

While Boyle believed that "Slumdog" would play in Britain because of its large Indian population and because Patel is known there, the director is surprised it has been so well-received in America.

"I never thought it would work here, but then you get here and it plays. You learn that the underdog idea—that guy who has nothing but a dream—is a vehicle in which everybody can put themselves. It's part of the psyche here, part of the fabric and infra-

## FAST PAISED



"The year's best crowd-pleaser, 'Slumdog Millionaire' has the tear-jerking heft of a classic feel-good story—yep, I was a little choked up—as well as the zip and terror of a terrific rags-to-riches journey."

>> FOR MATT PAIS' FULL REVIEW, GO TO METROMIX.COM.



Patel  
GETTY IMAGES

## Mumbai memories

### Los Angeles Daily News

"Slumdog Millionaire" director Danny Boyle was having trouble finding a South Asian actor to play the oldest version of Jamal Malik, the uneducated street orphan who keeps getting the answers right on Indian TV's "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?"

Then Boyle's daughter suggested he try out a kid she'd seen on the raunchy British TV program "Skins," which airs at 9 p.m. Sunday on BBC America in the U.S. Boyle liked 17-year-old Dev Patel, and soon the actor was in Mumbai, experiencing the world of his forebears for the first time in his life.

"It's my culture; so, on one hand, it was amazing to be there," said Patel, who still lives with his parents in North London. "It sounds cheesy, but you do find something in yourself. The language that you hear in London, you hear it spoken in the real mother tongue out there, the food is different. ... But then again, I'm a London-born-and-bred kid, so going there to play someone who had grown up all his life in a slum was a really daunting task."

"But it was good, because I was immersed in this environment for a number of months."



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# Flaming Lips make backyard sci-fi movie

## Associated Press

Seven years in the making, the Flaming Lips' new "Christmas on Mars" is a lo-fi feat of obsession and endurance.

The sci-fi movie—which frontman Wayne Coyne calls "a freakout"—was created with amateur compulsiveness, patched together on self-made sets in Coyne's Oklahoma backyard.

"I do know, for sure, I would be one of these guys who built a city out of bottle caps in his backyard if I didn't have the Flaming Lips," Coyne said in a recent interview. "I'm kind of that smelly, weird, almost insane guy making his weird outsider art in his backyard."

With moviemaking experience only from music videos, Coyne directed "Christmas on Mars" by casting friends (including actors Adam Goldman and Fred Armisen) and bandmates (the band's Steve Drozd).

The 86-minute movie is playing in theaters this fall and was released Tuesday on DVD by the band's record label, Warner Bros. Records. It's also available on iTunes for \$9.99.

"We want this identity," Coyne said. "I'll talk about groups like the Beatles or Pink Floyd or whatever. They don't just go up there



Flaming Lips frontman Wayne Coyne in "Christmas on Mars" WARNER BROS. RECORDS

and play their instruments. They have created their world for themselves to live in. That's what I want to do. Not for our fans, mostly for me."

The identity of the Flaming Lips isn't easy to describe and is best experienced at their concerts, which typically include animal costumes, dancers on each side of the stage, fake blood and, occasionally, a giant UFO.

Though it can seem like an insular, psyche-

delic utopia, the Lips have always sang songs grounded in reality, often about death and failure. Coyne has called their music a "sunshiny, funeral-esque sort of thing"—and "Christmas on Mars" continues in that vein.

Explaining the plot would be impossible, but it centers on a crew living on Mars and the arrival of a Martian (Coyne) on Christmas Eve. Unsure of how to describe it, Drozd calls the movie—variously black-and-white and a

brightly colored swirl—"a sensory experience."

Said Coyne: "I just surrender to it. I don't try to justify it and say, 'Look, the marching band has genitals on their heads because of ... this.' I don't know! It just looks cool!"

If "Christmas on Mars" sounds like the kind of film that might inspire an audience to bring hallucinogenics rather than popcorn, that possibility isn't lost on Coyne, who acknowledged the Lips are "definitely a drug band on a couple different levels."

"You know, if you're a 20-year-old and want to take some acid and watch a movie, 'Christmas on Mars' would probably be a good one for that," Coyne said, laughing.

He does, though, caution that heroin and crystal meth are drugs he wouldn't go near. His oldest brother still struggles with meth, and Drozd was in the lows of a heroin addiction (which he kicked years ago) early during the making of "Christmas on Mars."

"I have a really hard time watching it," Drozd, noting how thin he is in certain older shots. "I just think some of the acting is horrible, mine especially. And just for me, my whole personal story that goes along with it."



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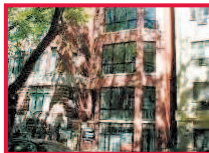
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HOT DATE

Dec. 11

The date that Laurence Fishburne will join the cast of “CSI” as Dr. Raymond Langston, who will work alongside William Petersen’s Gil Grissom in a few episodes before Petersen leaves the CBS series.

NEW SHOWS

Unlocking the Great Pyramid

8 p.m. Sunday,  
National Geographic

A French architect thinks he’s figured out how the Egyptians built the Great Pyramid at Giza, and I believe him.

Batman: Brave And The Bold

7 p.m. Friday,  
Cartoon Network

This animated Batman is definitely not dark and tortured, so dump your kids in front of the TV.



Amanda Tapping in  
“Sanctuary”  
NBC

She doesn’t look a day over 157

You’d never know Amanda Tapping plays a 157-year-old woman by looking at her.

Yet that’s how old the actress’ “Sanctuary” character, Dr. Helen Magnus, is.

“She bathes in Botox,” Tapping told me at San Diego Comic Con in July. “I can’t actually reveal why she is the age she is, but suffice to say there was a dramatic turning point in her life ... and what she got out of it was she doesn’t age, or she ages rather slowly.”

Fans will find out exactly what happened at 9 p.m. Friday, when the episode called “The Five” airs on Sci Fi.

I’m not spoiling it for you, but you can expect to see vampires and Helen’s old flame, John Druiett (Christopher Heyerdahl), who’s also known as Jack the Ripper.

“You’ll get the full meal deal on Helen Magnus and how she came to be who she is and why she’s still around,” Tapping teased.

For those who haven’t seen the show, which is shot almost entirely in green screen, Helen runs a sanctuary for “abnormals,” or creatures with special abilities or oddities. Think of the characters that populate the “Star Wars” cantina and you get the idea. She works with her daughter, tough gal Ashley (Emilie Ullerup), and her latest recruit, forensic psychiatrist Dr. Will Zimmerman (Robin Dunne).

Since the show’s Oct. 3 debut, which was watched by 3 million viewers, the “Sanctuary” team has met several abnormalities—from shape-shifters to folding men to nubbins.

“I’m loathed to say ‘monster of the week,’ but every episode has a very interesting focal character,” said Tapping, who added that if “Sanctuary” were to be picked up for another season, she would want to explore even more of Helen’s own history.

“I’d love to do more [flashback] work,” she said. “What was happening to her in the 1920s and what was happening to her in the ‘30s? She’s been involved with all these historical figures. She’s the type of woman who invites that kind of company.”

Tapping got her wish on Thursday. Sci Fi announced that it was giving “Sanctuary” a second season, which means the former “Stargate SG-1” and “Stargate Atlantis” actress will be aging into her character, even if Helen doesn’t age.

“Thank you for saying she looks good,” Tapping told me.



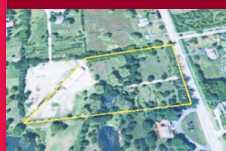


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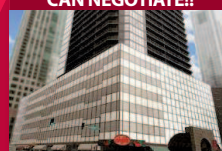


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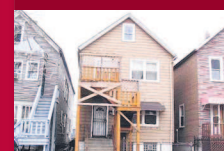


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# Fire threatens 'Desperate Housewives'

## Associated Press

It's mayhem on the set of ABC's "Desperate Housewives."

Most of the cast is attempting to flee a crowded nightclub that's slowly catching fire. Thick layers of smoke are quickly filling the room. Flickering flames are streaking up the walls. Pushy extras are hurrying to the nearest exit. And someone is still in the bathroom!

Much like the tornado that ravaged Wisteria Lane last season or the supermarket standoff the year before, the nightclub fire is the buzzed-about sweeps stunt that will engulf Sunday's 8 p.m. episode. The blaze appears to have been started by this season's mysterious—and perhaps villainous—new neighbor Dave Williams, played by Neal McDonough.

"I personally don't think my character is a bad guy," McDonough said during a break from filming. "He's just damaged goods. Something happened to him that he just can't come back from. He has to take care of something. It's eating his life away. It's really interesting to explore a character like this, and it makes me feel very fortunate for my life."

Away from their usual Universal Studios



It's sweeps week, which means there must be a fire on "Desperate Housewives." AP

street set, the cast have gathered for the scorcher inside Sound Stage 28. Meanwhile, on another part of the back lot, a nightclub facade is being erected that will later be burnt to a crisp. In true sweeps fashion, someone won't survive.

During production of the episode in

October, the actor portraying one of those in peril found himself in danger in real life.

Gale Harold, who plays the boyfriend of Teri Hatcher's character, was in a motorcycle accident and fractured his shoulder. Script rewrites were ordered after Harold was admitted to USC Medical Center.

This fire isn't the first to threaten Wisteria Lane's residents. In the series' first episode, Susan Mayer (Hatcher) accidentally burned down the home of Edie Britt (Nicollette Sheridan), who retaliated in the second season by lighting up Mayer's place. In the fourth season, the naughty twin sons of Lynette Scavo (Felicity Huffman) confessed to an arson.

Is series creator Marc Cherry a closeted pyromaniac?

"Not at all," he said. "I just like putting people in jeopardy."

Cherry, who jumped the storyline ahead five years at the beginning of the season, said he doesn't think "Housewives" will be doing any more fast-forwarding, but he does see an end to the series. He's beginning to conjure up ideas for the sixth season and hopes the seventh season will be the last.

"I know what the last scene of the show is," Cherry said, adding only that it would feature just one of the housewives. "I already have that in my head. I would like to end the series after seven seasons. The problem is we are one of the top-rated scripted series on ABC."

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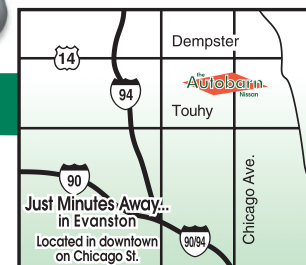


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## Best Video game Ever

And the winner is...



Mario is king. After a monthlong tourney and a tough battle with New School champion GoldenEye in the title match, Mario 3 was voted the winner of RedEye's "Best Video Game Ever" tournament on Thursday. It's the Old School champ's first win. Oh, it's RedEye's first game tournament too. Relive the entire tourney and see how your favorite video game fared at [redeychicago.com/bestvideogame](http://redeychicago.com/bestvideogame).

## Pac-Man, the musical?

### Chicago Tribune

In the age of Guitar Hero, music and video games are more intertwined than ever. But an orchestral performance of music from hit video games?

That's Video Games Live!, which brings together Pac-Man, an orchestra and the razzmatazz of Blue Man Group at the Chicago Theatre on Saturday. While laser lights rip through the auditorium, a symphony will perform music from the Halo video games, the Mario Bros. series and other hits as scenes from the games are displayed on large screens.

"I'm using all the things we grew up with—rock concert lighting, quick videos—and combining them with the power and emotion of video game music," says show producer Tommy Tallarico, a composer of video game

music.

This isn't an orchestra performing the bleeping, blooping soundtrack that accompanies Pac-Man's dot-eating journeys. Games have changed a lot.

Titles such as the Halo series go for epic, sweeping music that befit heroes battling against all odds to save humanity, rescue the princess or avenge a senseless murder.

To keep the evening as interactive as a game, Video Games

Live! stops the music long enough to bring a couple of audience members on stage to play a life-size version of Space Invaders.

"We're not taking our very exciting world of video game and putting it on stage," Tallarico said, "where people in tuxedos are playing the music and it's, 'Shh, be quiet!'"

### Video Games Live!

**When:** 8 p.m.

Saturday; costume contest begins at 7 p.m.

**Where:** Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State St.

**Price:** \$34.50-\$72; 312-559-1212 or [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com)

## Get geared up for Video Game Awards

### Associated Press

Grand Theft Auto IV topped the list of nominees for Spike TV's Video Game Awards with eight nominations in categories such as best action-adventure game, soundtrack and performance by a human male.

Metal Gear Solid 4 earned seven nominations, while LittleBigPlanet and Fallout 3 captured six nominations each. Those games will compete against recently released Gears of War 2 for game of the year, the network announced Thursday.

The sixth annual Video Game Awards will be broadcast live Dec. 14, when 50 Cent will

perform "Get Up" to footage of his upcoming game, 50 Cent: Blood in the Sand.

The awards show won't be without some celebrity winners. Actors and actresses who lent their voices to games also are nominated. Ricky Gervais, Kiefer Sutherland, Liam Neeson and Daniel Craig will compete for male big name in the game; Jenny McCarthy, Liv Tyler, Eliza Dushku and Judi Dench will face off for female big name in the game.





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# Exercisers facing dark times

**MCT**  
This time of year tries runners' souls as much as their soles, and the same goes for cyclists and walkers.

Really, almost anyone who exercises outdoors in the fall and winter has to deal with darkness descending earlier and earlier. And for the past few weeks, morning exercisers have had to don reflective garb and begin their workouts in pitch dark.

Which time of day is optimal for exercise? Exercise scientists and those looking at chronobiology—how biological rhythms change in a daily cycle—nearly always give the same initial response in answering the question.

“For the general public, any time is better than no time for exercising,” said Jason Blessinger, an exercise physiologist at California State University, Sacramento. “Biologically, your peak hours are usually midday. That’s because brain processes and cortisol (the hormone that regulates blood pressure and blood sugar) are at their peak awareness. Your chances of injury decrease.”

Michael Deschenes, a physiologist and neurobiologist at the College of William and Mary, has published considerable research on chronobiology and exercise. Deschenes’ data suggest that early morning is not the best time to exercise for most people—especially those who are accustomed to running in the evening but switch after the time change.

The drawbacks, Deschenes said, “are less pronounced with moderate, aerobic-type exercise like your daily jog. The main problem is that the body’s internal clock regulates core and muscle temperature to be at its lowest early in the morning.”

Some chronobiologists have advised those with hypertension or cardiovascular risk factors not to exercise first thing in the morning. Blood pressure peaks in the early morning, narrowing the arteries. Conversely, body temperature, essential for maximum muscle efficiency, rises to its highest level around 4 p.m.

Deschenes isn’t so much concerned with early-morning joggers as he is with those who hit the gym for weight lifting or anaerobic sports.

“For those [sports] that involve ‘explosive’ muscle contractions like racquetball or basketball, it would be better if they can get some time in between crawling out of bed and starting exercising,” he said.



With the changing seasons comes a change in exercise times for many people. But experts say an early-morning run may not be the best option for some. **TRIBUNE FILE**



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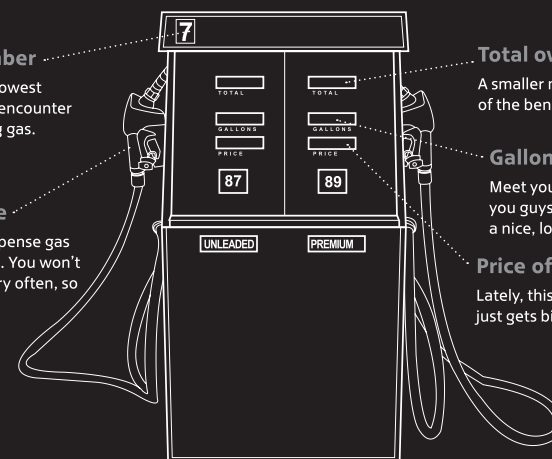
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## Your face a little cheeky? It's not easy to lose

### MCT

Ever been called “Chipmunk Cheeks”? How 'bout “Fathead”?

Don't take it personally. Chances are you are one of the unfortunate people who puts your first 10 pounds on in your face.

To drag that double chin of yours up off the ground, keep in mind that abdominal obesity is known to correlate with various diseases. No such data on weight in the face! In fact, if you're carrying five pounds on your face, that's five that are not around your belly.

Now to break the bad news: There's not much you can do to lose weight in your face. You inherited the beautiful smile, the contagious giggle and the cheeks. Although crackpot theories about how to lose weight in your face do abound—from steaming your face to going under the knife—there are several real-life options:

**Reduce refined sugar and carbohydrates.** Some nutritionists theorize that excessive consumption of refined sugar and carbohydrates can lead to water retention in the face. Go for whole grains, no processed foods.

**Cut back on salt.** Salt makes you retain water, and since your face likes to retain, the

### THE GOOD NEWS

Always look on the bright side, even of your cheekiness:

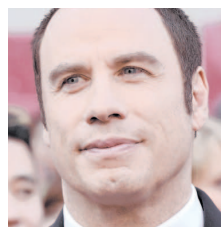
- » You're in good company. Think John Travolta, Vince Vaughn, Kate Bosworth and Renee Zellweger.
- » You're highly motivated to stay slim. You are most likely to see a photo of yourself and cut the calories immediately.
- » You'll look younger longer. As we age, our faces naturally thin. Because your face has more cushion to begin with, it will take longer to thin.

water goes there.

**Reduce medications.** Some over-the-counter medications can contribute to water retention.

**Contour.** Bronzing powder that matches your skin tone can help—powder under your chin and along the jaw line. And you'd be amazed at what a tweak to your hairstyle can do to slim your face. Ditch the bangs, and go for wisps if you need to deflect the eye from your forehead for some reason. Go for volume on the top of your head (to elongate it) and keep hair close to your head on the sides.

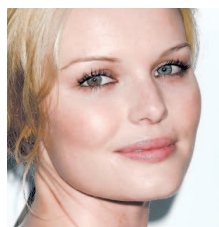
**Wait.** Our faces do thin as we age.



Travolta



Vaughn



Bosworth



Zellweger



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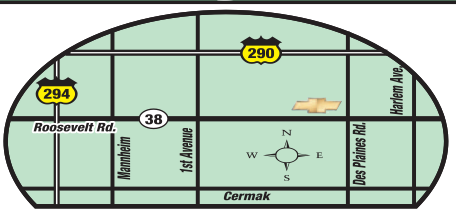
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Cloud Cult

# Indie band Cloud Cult throws green tea party

## MCT

Craig Minowa has been nurturing his eco-friendly band Cloud Cult since the early 1990s, and like anyone who is finally reaping some success after eking out a living in indie-pop, he speaks with pride at how his musical garden has grown.

"It's been a gradual process," Minowa said from his organic farm in northern Minnesota. "But it seems like with each album we come out with, there's a trajectory that goes through yet another layer of the crust of mainstream media."

Minowa considers the most recent of Cloud Cult's eight discs of green-themed songs about life, loss and redemption—2007's "The Meaning of 8" and this year's "Feel Good Ghosts (Tea-Partying Through Tornadoes)"—especially important breakthroughs.

"Releasing an album used to put me in the hole financially," he said. "Until the last two albums, I was using a credit card to put them out. But for 'The Meaning of 8,' I didn't have to go into debt. It was the first album that core members pooled their money and treated it as an investment."

Even so, when "Feel Good Ghosts" was released in April, Minowa announced that Cloud Cult might go on indefinite hiatus after its 2008 tour and perhaps call it quits.

However, the 35-year-old frontman, who works as an environmental scientist for the online nonprofit Organic Consumers Association, is now forecasting a sunnier future for Cloud Cult and its music, which has drawn comparisons to Arcade Fire, The

Postal Service and The Polyphonic Spree.

"The spring tour went really well financially," said Minowa, who with his bandmates often travels in a bio-diesel van, records in a geothermal-powered studio and contributes to the non-profit conservation organization American Forests and [nativeenergy.com](http://nativeenergy.com), which helps build wind turbines on Native American reservations.

"And we have been able to back off on regular day jobs," said the singer, who estimates he has had 36 of them, including kids' party entertainer, wedding DJ, ice cream truck driver and window handle factory worker. "So we decided to come out and do a fall tour. ... It's lucrative enough for me to consider it a paying job."

On the tour, "We will be bringing the full shebang," Minowa said, "painters included." Minowa is referring to his wife, Connie, and trumpeter Scott West, who create original works onstage as the band plays. At the end of each concert, the paintings are auctioned off, with proceeds going to green groups.

Minowa attributes his interest in the environment to his parents as he was growing up in Owatonna, Minn.

"And I've always had an inherent need to do music," said Minowa, citing The Cure's Robert Smith as "a huge role model" and crediting the Art of Noise for his interest in samples and sound sculpting.

"That carried me through [lean times]. I'd think back to bands like The Cure, who had a half-dozen albums out before hitting in the U.S."

## Cloud Cult

**When:** 9 p.m. Sunday

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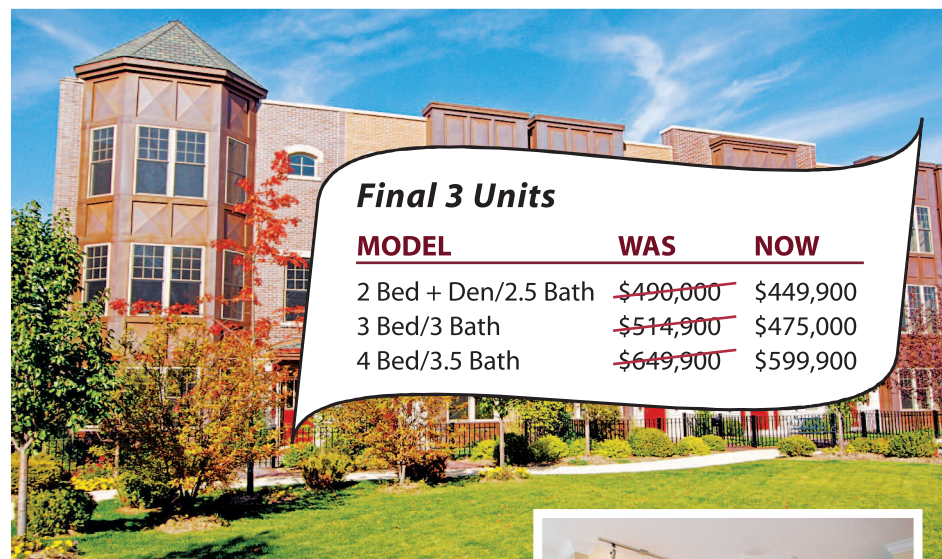
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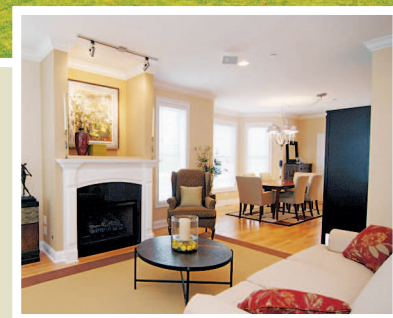
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- 54 Uses a ruler
- 58 Cain's victim
- 59 Put into effect
- 61 Badgered
- 62 Solitary
- 63 Bus itinerary
- 64 Frat party attire, perhaps
- 65 Whale groups
- 66 Holiest of cheeses?
- 67 Pipe part

**DOWN**

- 1 Part of SASE
- 2 "Garfield" dog
- 3 Singing star
- 4 Go up and down

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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58						59	60				61			
62						63					64			
65						66					67			

- 5 Moral transgression
- 6 Demi of "Ghost"
- 7 Drops the ball
- 8 \_ "King" Cole
- 9 Methods
- 10 Spoof
- 11 Corpulent
- 12 Noteworthy acts
- 13 Selling feature
- 21 Travel charges
- 23 Arctic explorer John
- 25 Summer or Shalala
- 26 Armstrong or Myerson
- 27 Garden tool
- 28 Opera song
- 29 Worker's devices
- 32 Butcher's stock
- 34 Relaxed condition
- 35 Arcturus or Rigel
- 36 2,000-pound weights
- 38 Beats down
- 40 Baseball groups
- 42 Mailers
- 43 Changes genetically
- 46 Busy insect
- 48 Sudden gushes
- 49 Dandruff locale
- 50 Prohibition
- 51 Make minor alterations
- 52 Splinter groups
- 54 Hawaiian island
- 55 Subterranean growth
- 56 Outer limit
- 57 Dress line
- 60 At present

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AP PHOTOS / REDEYE ILLUSTRATION

## Tough crowd

Rihanna latest celeb to face foreign speed bumps

Rihanna fans in Indonesia are out of luck. The “Live Your Life” singer has canceled a concert scheduled Friday in the Southeast Asian nation over security concerns, The Associated Press reports. She had been scheduled to do her thing in front of 6,000 people in the capital city of Jakarta, but like so many high-profile concerts in that corner of the globe (particularly in Malaysia), the event has been bumped over matters of state. There was no immediate comment from Rihanna, but a spokeswoman for the event told the AP she hoped to see the singer back in Jakarta in January. If the past is any indication, fans shouldn’t hold their breath. Here’s a peek at the RedEye archives, which show the history of hiccups for pop stars who have attempted to perform where politics and pop culture collide.

### AVRIL LAVIGNE

**1** In August, the Canadian rocker faced push-back in Malaysia when the country’s opposition party urged the government to cancel a concert by the Canadian singer, saying her moves are “too sexy.”

### GWEN STEFANI

**2** The fashion icon and singer performed in Malaysia last year wearing outfits that showed almost no skin. She had promised to dress modestly after protesters said before the performance that her skimpy outfits clashed with their conservative values. The “Hollaback Girl” reportedly changed costumes for every song, remaining fully covered as she belted out tunes such as “The Sweet Escape,” “Rich Girl” and “Wind it Up.”

### CHRISTINA AGUILERA

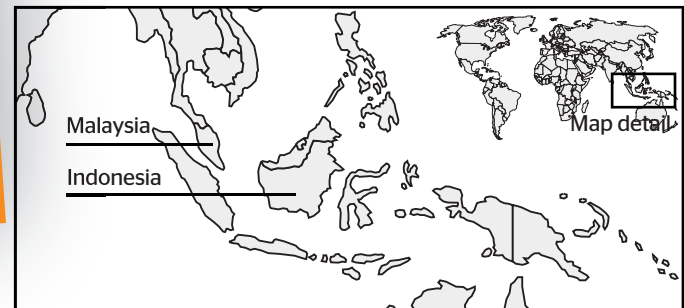
**3** The singer behind “Keeps Getting Better” left Malaysia behind last year—she skipped the country all together on her Asian tour.

### BEYONCÉ

**4** The “If I Were a Boy” singer scrapped plans to stage her first concert in Malaysia last year, instead choosing to perform in neighboring Indonesia, which has less stringent rules about how performers should dress and behave. The announcement followed speculation that B was reluctant to fulfill the Malaysian government’s demand for female performers to cover up from the top of their chests to their knees, including their shoulders. Her talent agency said the Malaysia concert was canceled “due to a scheduling conflict.”

### PUSSYCAT DOLLS

**5** In 2006, authorities in Malaysia issued concert organizers a fine of nearly \$3,000 for the Dolls’ “eye-popping attire” during a July show, according to The Associated Press.





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Kid Rock and Lil Wayne **APPHOTO**

## A Lil country

Lil Wayne joined Kid Rock onstage Wednesday night for a remix of Rock's "All Summer Long" at the Country Music Association Awards.

The prolific lyricist didn't rap though; he just strummed a guitar onstage, **mtv.com** reported. Other highlights: Carrie Underwood, who was co-hosting with Brad Paisley, took home female vocalist of the year and Kenny Chesney won entertainer of the year for the third straight time, according to the AP. Among the stars presenting awards were Nicole Kidman, Hugh Jackman and Reese Witherspoon.

### Hollywood hot spot

Newly engaged Playmate Kendra Wilkinson will join Spencer Pratt and Heidi Montag in an episode of "How I Met Your Mother," according to **usmagazine.com**. The trio will be playing magazine cover versions of themselves in the episode airing in January. They're not the first high-profile "HIMYM" guest stars: Britney Spears played a dorky receptionist earlier this year.

### Ready for his close-up

John Mayer is headed for prime-time, according to **tmz.com**. The singer-songwriter will host a weekly variety show for CBS, and the show may hit the air sometime early next year. It will be a music, variety and sketch show just like back in the day. Ken Ehrlich (who produces the Emmys and Grammys) will produce the show with Mayer.

## THE EX-FILES

It seems like everyone in Hollywood is talking about their failed relationships this week. Let's take a look at three leading ladies' comments:



**Sigler**  
AP FILE

» Former "Sopranos" star Jamie-Lynn Sigler tells Page Six Magazine that she was "often misguided and misled" in her early 20s, and her 2003 marriage to A.J. DiScala was no exception. She added: "But, man, am I glad we didn't have children."



**Swift**  
AP

» Taylor Swift says she and Joe Jonas broke up because of actress Camilla Belle, according to **usmagazine.com**. And, "If [exes] don't want me to write bad songs about them, they shouldn't do bad things." Take that JoBro!



**Aniston**  
AP FILE

» Jennifer Aniston tells Vogue in its December issue that it was "uncool" for Angelina Jolie to tell all about falling in love with Brad Pitt while he was still married. Then Aniston kept talking about it on "Oprah."

**txtable**

## Celebrity twin

Do you look like a celebrity? Show us! Send your picture along with the name of the celeb who shares your style to **dlhernandez@tribune.com**. For Friday, we have Brian Zweig. Think he's a ringer for Michael Phelps? Text "twin" and the number of your opinion to **47383**. You'll get the poll results instantly.

**1. DEAD ON**

**2. WAY OFF**



**Zweig**



**Phelps**

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# red hot

Robert Downey Jr. sits in the audience during the AFI Life Achievement Award tribute to Warren Beatty.

GETTY IMAGES FILE

# Robert

## THE ENTERTAINER

If you'd told Robert Downey Jr. a few years ago that starring as a comic book superhero and as a white guy who thinks he's black would make him the toast of Hollywood, he probably wouldn't have believed you.

And yet, there the "Iron Man" and "Tropic Thunder" star is—the poster/cover boy for Entertainment Weekly's 25 Entertainers of the Year issue, on newsstands Monday.

"Why am I having this year?" Downey asks, according to an EW news release. "To tell you the truth, I haven't fully digested what's happened to me before, during and after 'Iron Man.' 'Tropic Thunder' feels like it happened 25 minutes ago."



### Live-Ins

With whom did Robert Downey Jr. live for several years during the 1980s? Text **"downey"** and the number of your answer to **47383**.

You'll get an answer telling you if you got it right or wrong.

- 1. Ally Sheedy
- 2. Molly Ringwald
- 3. Sarah Jessica Parker
- 4. Jami Gertz

## Another McControversy on 'Grey's'?

Kevin McKidd has permanently checked in to "Grey's Anatomy." McKidd, who has guest starred as Major Owen Hunt on the ABC series, was hired after the departure of Brooke Smith, People magazine reports. Fans have accused ABC of firing Smith because network execs didn't like the lesbian story line involving her character, Dr. Erica Hahn.

Maybe ABC liked McKidd more. After all, he's already

got the "Mc"—as in McDreamy and McSteamy.

"I felt sad because she's obviously a great actress and I felt Owen and her character could have really clashed in an interesting way," McKidd told the New York Daily News.

**MORE ONLINE** For the latest in TV news, go to **redeye** [chicago.com/showpatrol](http://chicago.com/showpatrol)

### THE VELVET ROPE



Fey



Phelps

### Fascinating

What do Tina Fey and Michael Phelps have in common?

Other than they both appeared on "SNL" this year?

They both made Barbara Walters' list of the "10 Most Fascinating People."

Walters shares her list on an ABC special airing Dec. 4, The Associated Press reports.

While the name of the person claiming the top spot is kept under wraps for now, her list also includes Will Smith, Tom Cruise, Miley Cyrus and Rush Limbaugh.

### Two

Number of new cast members joining "Saturday Night Live." Abby Elliott and Michaela Watkins, will be joining the show this week, NBC announced Thursday. Elliott's dad, Chris Elliott, was a regular on the show during the 1994-95 season.

**“I realize that my place and position in history is that I will go down as the voice of this generation, of this decade, I will be the loudest voice.”**

**KANYE WEST** (below) comparing himself to Michael Jordan, in an interview Wednesday with The Associated Press.





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